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Poetry.

THE GYPSY TAINT.

Father is a townsman, mother from the far
Green Southern uplands, where wealthy pastures are.
My kith and my kindred are prosperous and sleek,
Who feed well and work well and thrive all the week.

But somewhere and some time, many a year ago,
There was a gypsy woman, that right well I know—
A wild, dark woman, from the moor and wold—
Who bare me an ancestor in days of old.

They hushed up her memory, hid her name away,
Thought they had done with her forever and a day,
Yet hath she left a heritage that none else shall win
Whereunto my wandering feet have entered in.

Fore surely when the dead leaves scatter down the street
With a rush and a rustle like little flying feet;
When the sou'west wakens and with scared looks askance
The townsfolk hasten from the storm's advance.

My whole soul sickens with a fierce desire,
Stress of sudden longings sets my blood on fire
For the wind on the hilltop in a lonely place
And the cold, soft raindrops blowing on my face.

For the steep hung hedges of the winding road
And the forest pathway by the stream o'erflowed,
For the storm-swept heather, where the blackcock whirrs
And the salt wind whistles through the stunted firs,

For the brown wood water and the brown field's smell,
And the wide sea marshes where the curlews dwell,
For the moorland black against the last red light,
And the sunk reef's breakers brawling to the night.

Hide within your houses with your glaring gas!
Mine shall be the peat smoke in the beech-roofed grass.
Count your sordid silver, tell your grimy gain!
Mine shall be the treasures of the wind and rain.

San Francisco Argonaut.

THE ROSE AND THE STAR.

A sweet rose in the garden grew,
Over her head shone a star in the blue.
"Let me be your sweetheart," the bright star said;
The rose she consented, and so they were wed.
"But what will you do when the summer is gone?
For I shall have fallen and you be forlorn."
Hung she her head low and dropp'd down a tear,
For the end of her happy life was near.

A lover and a maid passed by,
"Ah me!" the poor little rose did sigh.
She thought of the joy and the long happy life
The maiden would spend as his dear little wife.
And there was a silence, that lovers know best,
The youth plucked the rose, which he placed at her breast.
"Now," whispered the star, "we never shall part,
But you shall for aye be my own sweetheart!"

And treasured now is the little rose,
Safe in a casket the star knows;
Each evening the maiden in twilight dim
Takes out the rose just to think of him;
The star peeps in at the window pane,
As summers come, and summers wane;
As husband and wife, search you near search you far,
No happier two than the rose and the star.

—Alfred H. Hyatt.

Miscellany.

KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT.

Cutting Off Corners Spoiled the Trespassers as Well as the Man.

"It's funny," said the man who was filling two seats in a car, while a woman with a baby in her arms stood, "but I have noticed that people who set out to do a disagreeable thing usually get their come-uppance in the same way. Now, there's my neighbor, Jorkins. His lawn has a corner that has been worn smooth by the public for years, and what did Jorkins go and do but cut it off without a moment's warning."

"Well, who had a better right?"

"I know that, but it was the way he did it. He just put up an invisible wire fence, and a man who was running for a car and had taken that corner all his life would be knocked silly. Children and dogs were piled up promiscuously and the wire fence was never fazed.

"But the biggest fun was with bicycle riders. They had been in the habit of riding on that sidewalk on this particular street, and as they couldn't see that measley fence they went full tilt across the corner, and inst lay over the grass as if a cyclone had struck 'em. But they had their revenge. Jorkins is laid up in arnica and mustard, and won't be out for a month."

"What happened to him?"

"Retribution. He came home late one night on his bicycle, forgot all about that wire fence, and cut across the corner in a hurry. They saved pieces of him, but the bicycle is a total wreck."

At that moment the woman and baby sat down suddenly on the man who was talking, and his eloquence was totally extinguished by the boomerang of fate.

—Detroit Free Press.

KNEW HE WAS GUILTY.

How a Judge Disposed of a Case in Spite of an Obstinate Jury.

In the attorneys' room in the Supreme Court in Auburn, after court or in its intermissions, they sometimes blaze away, says the Lewiston Journal. "I remember the time," said one of the attorneys, "in the days when Colonel Littlefield was sheriff, that Judge Walton was presiding and the jury was out on a rum case. They had been out a long time and Judge Walton was rather nervous and wanted a verdict. To his clear and far-seeing mind, the most remarkable in many ways that ever held jurisdiction in New England, there was no excuse for any prolonged consideration of the case by any jury. Leaning back, seemingly lost in thought, he suddenly sat bolt upright and beckoned to Colonel Littlefield, and the sheriff walked up in that quiet way of his.

"'Colonel,' said Judge Walton—'Mr. Sheriff, I should say—see if that respondent won't plead guilty provided his fine is put at $50.' Colonel Littlefield smiled and went over and talked with the prisoner. It took but a few minutes, and in less time than it could be told he had retracted his plea, pleaded guilty, and had been fined. Then the court sent out for the jury. 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'it seems that some of you are not yet satisfied in your minds that the prisoner is guilty.' The jury looked at each other. 'Is that a fact, gentlemen?' 'It is, please the court,' said the foreman. 'Well, then, for your edification I will say that the prisoner himself is quite well satisfied that he is guilty for he has pleaded guilty and has been fined. You are excused from further consideration of the case.'"

Got 'Em Mixed Up.

"You look sad, Percy."

"Yes, deah boy. Just met Bounder and his wife cycling, and raised my hat to the wife and said: 'How do, old man?' to Bounder."

"Well?"

"But I'm afraid I've mixed 'em."—Sketch.

A Sad Result.

"The whole Skittles family are very much run down in health."

"What's the matter?"

"They all spend so much time bicycling that there isn't anybody to get the meals."—Chicago Record.

A YOUNG SCEPTIC.

The Girl Wanted Full Information About Noah and the Flood.

The little girl was hurried out of bed on Thursday morning to see the rainbow, which made a perfect arc in the sky and glowed with color, says the New York Sun. She had never seen one before, and was speechless with wonder. It looked to her like a section of one of her big glass marbles. She wanted to know how it came up there in the sky and whether she could go out and play under it. Her father, who was waiting for his breakfast, sat her upon his knee and told her the story of Noah and the flood and what the rainbow meant. She listened with a rapt expression, while she picked at the tablecloth with her fingers.

When her father had bolted his breakfast and gone away to the train the little girl proceeded to cross-examine her mother.

"Why didn't those people go upstairs when it began to rain?" she asked.

Her mother explained that it rained so hard the mountain tops were covered.

"Why did Noah put more than one animal in the ark? I don't see how the ark stood up with all those beasts and birds in it?" said the little girl.

"He took with him two of each kind," returned her mother, "so that they wouldn't be lonely."

"Who—Noah and his family?" inquired the little girl.

"No, no; the beasts and birds."

"But there were so many of them, how could any of them be lonely?"

"Well, they didn't all know each other when they were put into the ark," said her mother.

"But they had forty days and nights to get acquainted. I don't see how Noah slept, anyway, for the noise they made."

Her mother said nothing.

"How did Noah get them all into the ark?" the little girl began again.

"They walked in, of course."

"Did the birds walk in?"

"No; they flew in."

"Why didn't they fly out again?"

"Because it was raining hard; it rained forty days and nights."

"How long is that?"

"Oh, a long, long time; more than you can count on your fingers."

"I can count up to ten."

"Come, let me wash your face," said her mother.

The little girl didn't move.

"How does anybody know God said He wouldn't send another flood?" she persisted.

"The Bible says so, dear."

"But who says so in the Bible?"

"Why, God, of course."

"Well, who heard him?"

"Oh, you don't understand."

The little girl looked perplexed.

"Where is God now?" she said sturdily.

"In heaven. I've told you that so often you ought to know."

"That's up in the sky, isn't it?"

"Certainly."

The little girl went to the window and peered up for a moment. Then she said:

"If God's up in the sky, I don't see what He does with His legs."

When the little girl's father came home that evening her mother said:

"I wish, when you tell your child another Bible story, you would stay at home and answer her questions. She's been pestering the life out of me."

NEWEST STREET JACKET.

Boucle Cloth Has Become Very Fashionable, and New Jackets Are Made of It.

It can not be said that boucle cloth has come in again, for it never went out, but it is more fashionable than ever this year. The loops upon the surface of the cloth are arranged with less regularity, being often scattered in a design on the cloth, but the boucle effect remains.

A lovely boucle cloth was worn on Broadway the other day by a writer well known as a successful maker of books. Her taste in dress is as trim as her literary style, and she can always boast of something new.

The coat was a gray-green boucle. It was cut almost straight, with slightly sloping sides. The front was double breasted in a new way and fastened with large clear green buttons. Down the middle of the front was a strapping that looked like a blind opening.

The novel feature of this coat was the binding, which was of gray suede.

A LITERARY COAT.

This gave a very elegant appearance to the coat without adding terribly to the cost. It is whispered that this woman designs her own coats and makes her seamstress sew together strips of suede from the tops of her cast-off gloves for her coat bindings, but be that as it may, the coat was as neat a thing as has travelled Broadway. It was worn over a skirt of green and black striped cheviot upon a gray ground.

A Bargain.

"Say!" called David, "how happens it we get two copies of the Fireside Fakir every week?"

"I subscribed for them."

"What for? Ain't one copy enough? Costs $3 a year, doesn't it?"

"Yes," retorted Dora; "$3 a year, or two copies for $5. You don't suppose I was going to miss such a chance to save a dollar as that, do you?"—Rockland Tribune.

In a Fix.

Stubbins—I almost wish Bryan had been elected.

Watts—Why?

Stubbins—Oh, I praised McKinley so much during the campaign that my wife seems to think I have money to burn, now he's elected.—Philadelphia North American.

Couldn't.

"Didn't I see you pitching pennies with that little Sprankle boy?"

"Yes'm."

"Well, don't you do it again. Do you hear me?"

"Yes'm. I won't do it no more. He hain't got a cent left."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

An Autumn Discrepancy.

Another dark sorrow is joined to the sum
Of woes that embitter life's dream;
The longer the nights that are chilly become
The shorter the bed covers seem.

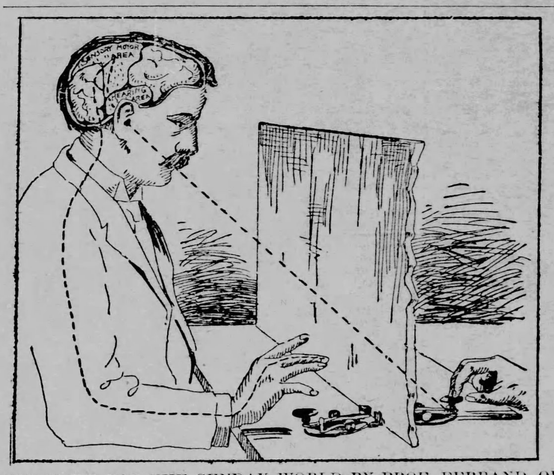
—Washington Star.

SENSITIVE FINGERS.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS MADE WITH MORITZ ROSENTHAL.

The Eminent Pianist Declares That the Seat of His Technique Was the Brain.

Experiments made with Moritz Rosenthal, the pianist, who is to give a recital at The Auditorium next Monday night, at the Psychological Laboratory of Columbia University, brought out results that will be of special interest to scientists and musicians all over the country, says the New York World.



TEST MADE FOR THE SUNDAY WORLD BY PROF. FERRAND, OF COLUMBIA UNIERSITYV, SHOWING THE PIANIST'S RAPIDITY OF REFLEX ACTION.

Psychologists have not yet reached the point where they dare divide men into sensory and motor types; that is, people who think with their muscles and people who think with those indefinable things styled senses. The experiments performed with Rosenthal and with Sieveking would go far to carry out this type idea.

Rosenthal's extraordinary rapidity of execution on the piano has been repeatedly commented on by critics. No matter what a person does there must always elapse some period of time between the presentation of an idea to the brain and the response the body makes to it. This is called reaction time.

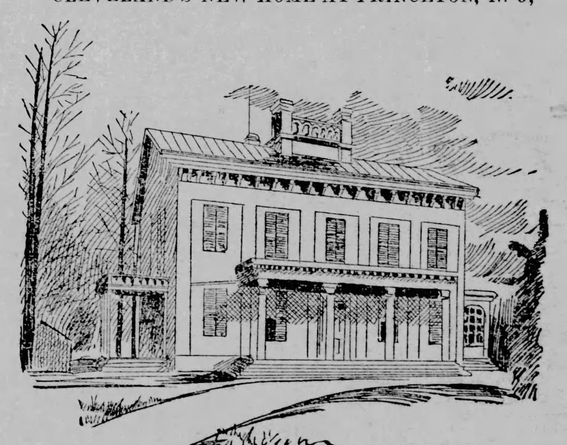
Scientists have been very busy lately endeavoring to secure accurate estimates of this time. It is supposed that where the senses and muscles are trained to such a degree as in the case of a pianist of Rosenthal's reputation, this time difference must be reduced to a surprisingly small figure—that thought must travel at extraordinary speed.

In performing tests Dr. Ferrand struck a telegrapher's key, and Rosenthal was to lift his finger from a second key connected with the first by an electric current as quickly as he could after becoming aware that the other key had been struck. A very delicate machine registered the result. The average reaction time was 107 ten thousandths of a second. It was then found that Rosenthal had not thought of his fingers on the key, but listened for the sound, and if there is such a thing as a sensory type he may be placed in it. Rosenthal has repeatedly declared that the seat of his technique was the brain, and that he was not a muscular musician. The experiments confirmed this idea. Joseffy, who was Rosenthal's master, has always ben classed in the same way.

Sound traveled from the key under Dr. Ferrand's fingers to the auditory are about Rosenthal's ear. The idea was conveyed through the brain to the motor areas and traveled down the player's arm to the forefinger of the hand in 107 ten thousandths of a second. That is so fast that one cannot realize it. It takes the most accurate and delicate of instruments to measure such things.

Tests of Sieveking's sensitiveness showed that he was of the motor type, if it may be so called, and thinks with his muscles. Subjected to the same tests to discover how fast the idea traveled into the brain, through it to the motor area and down the arm again, the average was 146 ten thousandths of a second. Sieveking said he concentrated all his attention on his fingers, and so his is a pure motor reaction of surprising rapidity. The average man belongs to the same class, and thinks with his muscles at the rate of about 140 ten thousandths of a second. Anything under 135 is considered remarkably rapid.

CLEVELAND'S NEW HOME AT PRINCETON, N. J,



The house in which President Cleveland will live after his retirement from public life is a picturesque old mansion in a pretty part of Princeton, N. J. He will not be dean of the Princeton University law college. This story, which was given currency shortly after the purchase of the property, has been authoritatively denied by President Patton. According to the university authorities, Mr. Cleveland's residence in that city will have no university significance. The fact is that the President has been desirous of retiring to some quiet place, and both he and Mrs. Cleveland are very fond of this college town with its cultured sphere. The house is not one which any one would suppose would be occupied by a man of Mr. Cleveland's wealth. It is a large, roomy structure, with an appearance of age that it does not deserve. It is built of stuccoed brick and brown stone in the old colonial style. Its dimensions are 30 feet wide by 45 feet deep and two stories and a half high. Three sides of it are surrounded by porches. Through its middle runs a wide, old-fashioned hall, at the right of which is the staircase. The flooring of the hall is in hard wood, but there are no other hard wood floors in the house. The rooms, 15 in number, are all very large, and the ceilings are 12 feet high. One-half of the first floor is given up to the parlor. This apartment occupies the south side of the house. On the northern side are the dining and sitting rooms. The whole affair is sadly out of order. There is no ornamentation whatever in the interior. The house was built in 1854 by Commodore Stockton, a line descendant of Richard Stockton, who bought the land from William Penn. It was owned lately by Mrs. Slidell, who, when she left for Europe a month ago, told her agent to sell it for $40,000. The Clevelands will reside in Princeton from October to June and intend to spend the warmer months at Buzzard's Bay.

FOR MY LADY.

How to Wear Veils.

These are a few points about veils. The latest edict is that two should be worn. One is of dotted net, white or black, and is put on close to the face. The other, which is of chiffon or mousseline, is placed loosely about the hat and hangs in waving folds. Plain brown is the favorite color just now, though dark blue is very fashionable, especially when dotted. Chiffon veils of dark colors have white or black chenille dots. Plain white or black net must also be dotted. The sheer veils, without dots, save the skin somewhat from the dust and are made thin enough not to be uncomfortably warm, while the fashion of pinning them loosely is another contribution to comfort.

Sweaters for Babies.

It is not only the bicycle girl and the acrobatic football man who wear sweaters these days. Babies, even before they are old enough to creep, may now appear in sweaters.

These new miniature sweaters are very novel-looking little garments on account of their size. They are exact reproductions of those made for grown-up girls who ride bicycles. They are in light and dark blue, pink, brown and scarlet.

Your Last Winter's Furs.

Furs, when taken out in the fall, are often found to have a matted and crushed appearance. They can be made to look fresh and new with little trouble. Wet the fur with a clean brush dipped in water and then shaken, brushing the hair up the wrong way. Let the fur dry in the air for half an hour, and then give it a good beating with a rattan. After beating it, comb the fur in the right way with a coarse comb.

Reign of Brocades.

This is decidedly a brocade season; brocaded wool, with satin and silk figures and brocaded silk. Both these materials come in self-colors, in contrasts, and in harmonies. Perhaps the purples and lilacs, combined in the figurings with white, seem the prettiest and richest. But still that may be an individual fancy, because the blush pink, with white, the orange with canary, the blue with green are beautiful, and far more becoming to some natures than any of the purples.

Another Point of View.

Mr. Peckett—I'm afraid Tom will never qualify as a solicitor; he is too lazy to study. Now, look at his fellow clerk, Willson. As soon as he gets home he commences to read up, and does not stop until he goes to bed.

Mrs. Peckett—Doesn't it strike you, my dear, that Mr. Willson must be very stupid to require to study so much?—Judy.

DECEIVED HER DEAREST FRIEND.

Entrancing Typewriter Plays a Petty Trick on Her Companion.

Woman moves in a most mysterious way her daily wonders to perform, according to the New York Journal.

Part of which is apropos of the present roast chestnut season.

Two trim young women, bearing the unmistakable and dignified marks of typewriters, approached the stairs of the up-town station of the Sixth avenue "L" road at Cortlandt street Friday evening.

"You go ahead and get the tickets, Belle, and I'll buy some chestnuts and meet you on the platform."

Belle hurried up the stairs while her companion stopped at a vender's stand and bought 10 cents' worth of nuts.

The fruit of the "spreading tree" was handed to her in a paper bag, and she hastened away after Belle. But on the way up stairs she slipped a hand into the bag, and taking a good fistful of the nuts shoved them into her coat pocket. Then she took another fistful and deposited the nuts in the pocket on the other side of her coat. In another moment she was with Belle, and they boarded a train for Harlem.

"Are they real hot, Stella?" said Belle, glancing at the bag.

"Lovely," answered Stella, "and now let's divide."

"O, what small measure he gave you," said Belle, as she looked dubiously at the small number she was likely to get in the division.

"Yes, but you know it's so early in the season the nuts are awfully dear. Now you take your half and put them in your pocket and I'll keep the bag."

And that's the way it was done.

A Local Trouble.

First Westerner—"Pete is down with lung trouble again."

Second Westerner—"What's the matter with his lungs?"

First Westerner—"He's got a bullet in one of 'em."—Puck.

A Bride and a Bottle.

"And the captive?" asked the savage potentate.

"Sire," said the enthusiastic chef de cuisine, "she is a bird."

"Very well, old man," said his majesty. "In that event don't forget the cold bottle."—Detroit News-Tribune.

Our Serial Story.

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THE YELLOW PASSENGERS:

A Mystery and Its Solution.

By RIVINGTON PYE,

Author of "THE MAN WHO DISAPPEARED," "LONDON OF THE PAST," &c, &c

CHAPTER XI.

Early on this Saturday morning, Scotland Yard was duly apprised by Manchester that the Bent case was under investigation. And later on, as already mentioned, Inspector Marsh sent in a preliminary report of his discoveries —first, as to the luggage having been left behind in London, and secondly as to the movements of Mr. "Walter Buckle."

The arrival of the latter at Euston, just before 4 o'clock a. m., by the Scotch mail, was easily established. The detective sent to follow up his track found that Buckle was seen to walk quietly out of the station. There were cabs at hand, but he did not take one; neither did he make use of the company's hotel. His only luggage at the time was the black Gladstone bag, which he had brought from Crimby.

Once outside the station, though, all trace seemed lost. Inquiries were made at numerous hotels, of policemen in the streets, and cabmen; but nothing resulted. It appeared as if Buckle had vanished into thin air, or rendered himself invisible, immediately he got outside the company's portals.

Not much greater success attended another investigation, which was made concurrently with this—one, namely, into the whereabouts of the two trunks. Cabin-trunks are not rarities at Waterloo—not even when decorated with gaudy labels. Hence, the difficulty of a satisfactory identification was great—even though exact descriptions of trunks and owner were furnished, and though the arrival took place by a specified train.

At length a porter was found who remembered such a man as Bent, encumbered with just such luggage as that described. The passenger, he said, was alone, and in a great hurry—wanted to get Charing Cross before one o'clock. The gentleman, too (so said the porter), spoke with a distinct American accent. Altogether—barring the wish to get to Charing Cross, the correspondence was exact, and it seemed to the detective that he had struck the right trail.

Happily, the porter knew the cabman who had driven this person away. It took time to find cabby, but he was unearthed at length. Being questioned about his fare—and the luggage—he corroborated the porter in every detail. The description, too, that he gave, coincided very fairly with what was known of Bent's appearance.

The detective quite expected to find, on questioning cabby, that the porter was mistaken in giving Charing Cross as the American's objective—or, else, if the latter had really mentioned Charing Cross to the porter, that he had done so as a blind. To the official's astonishment, though, cabby also said Charing Cross. And, moreover, stoutly asserted that Bent and his two boxes were actually landed there, in the courtyard of the South Eastern Company's station.

Here was a dilemma. Bent certainly reached Euston Station just before half-past one. Yet there was evidence, seemingly weighty evidence, to the effect that he drove first to Charing Cross, with his luggage, reaching there about 12:40. It would be possible, of course—just possible, and not much more—to go on from the latter station to the former within the time. But where was the object—beyond the vague, just conceivable one of of throwing pursuers (who, at that moment, did not exist on this side the Atlantic), off the scent? The detective felt puzzled.

"And you left him at Charing Cross?" he asked. "He didn't change his mind and go on?"

"No. He didn't."

"His trunks were taken into the station?"

"They were—by one of the porters outside."

"And he himself went into the station after them?"

"He did—or else before them."

"Did you see any more of him, or of the boxes?"

"Of neither."

"Didn't see him speak to any one, I suppose?"

"Not except the porter."

"H'm! Stay long in the yard?"

"Hardly a second."

"Ah! that explains it," said the detective, with a gesture of relief. "Well now, I think, if you don't mind, I'll get you to drive me to the same spot."

The conversation had taken place inside Waterloo Station. Within ten minutes, the inquisitive official was deposited in the courtyard of the S. E. company's terminus, and was requesting the cabman to point out, if he could, the porter who had handled the the luggage.

Cabby was not sure. But after a little consideration he pointed to one of the men. "I think that's him," he said. "Though, I don't swear to him."

As it happened, he had guessed right. And the porter, being an intelligent man, recalled the circumstance.

"Certainly," he said, "I remember the gentleman well. He was alone, and said he was going by the 1 5 to Dover—fast train for the Ostend boat. I wanted to take his boxes right away to the platform, but he wouldn't have that. Said he was waiting for a friend to turn up, and might change his plans. So I put 'em down in a corner, out of the way. I was called away then, but meant to keep an eye on 'em. Last I saw of him, he was going into the first-class refreshment room."

"Well . . . what happened then?"

"Can't tell you," said the porter frankly. "Ten minutes later, when I came to look for the boxes, they were gone. But whether they'd been taken in charge by another porter, or what, I cannot say. I neither saw them nor the man himself again."

The detective saw two possible explanations. Either they had been put into the cloak-room, or they had been taken on to the continent, perhaps, by a confederate—the "friend" Bent had spoken of. The former theory, being the easiest to test, was the first he chose to go upon.

It was soon negatived, though, by the evidence of the cloak-room books. The counterfoils were examined, and showed that no such parcel of luggage had been put in, about the time named. Nor did the officials remember any such deposit —then or since. Whatever became of the trunks, they were not stored away there.

The Scotland Yard man next tried, one by one, various porters who were likely to have handled the trunks. But they, one and all, professed complete ignorance of the matter. He found it impossible to ascertain from these men whether the boxes were sent on by train, or taken away somewhere else, or, in fact, anything about them; also, whether Bent did or did not meet the "friend" of whom he had spoken to the first porter. In fact, from the moment that the trunks were deposited in the corner, and their owner disappeared into the buffet, all trace of both was lost.

The case was in a nutshell. At 12:40 the whereabouts of the trunks was known. Between then and 12 50 they were spirited away—no one know how or where.

As a slight consolation to the detective, additional evidence was forthcoming which placed the ownership of these boxes beyond a doubt. The porter who took them off the cab had noticed their gorgeous labels. He was not quite sure of the name of the hotel, but thought "Palatine" was about right. He was certain, however, that the town mentioned was Southampton.

"I guessed he was American from his talk," the porter said. "And when I saw the "Southampton" on the labels, I knew I was right. I remember wondering at the time, whether it was necessary to come through London in order to get to Dover."

The detective now turned his attention to following up Bent's movements. The facts he had to go upon were clear, at 12:40 Bent was inside Charing Cross station; while shortly before 1:30, he arrived at Euston. The journey between the two must, of course, have been made in a cab or private carriage. To find this, was the next—and a most necessary—step.

The cabman who drove him—that it was a cabman was a natural assumption—might be able to throw some light on the whereabouts of the trunks; or he might be able to speak as to the presence or absence of a confederate. In any case, his testimony would be a valuable link in the chain which was being forged.

Alas, though, he was not forthcoming. The detective hunted high and low, put artful questions to drivers who patronized the station, and interrogated anew the porters who wait for fresh arrivals. It was all in vain. The Saturday night closed in, and found him still in the dark.

CHAPTER XII.

We will return now to Mrs. Broadhurst, and deal with the further events which transpired at Widdon, on the Saturday afternoon and evening.

When we left the two women (at the close of Chapter VII.), they were in momentary expectation of a letter from Walter—a letter that would explain his curious proceedings during the past twenty-four hours. They were still ignorant, remember, of the stigma which had been put upon Bent, of the exact nature of the police investigations at Gulby, and of the interest felt by Inspector Marsh in the doings of the eccentric passenger. The moment was drawing near, though, when they would be roughly enlightened.

The postman was due about four o'clock, and on this round, letters posted in London up to the previous midnight, would, in the ordinary course, be delivered. He was watched for feverishly by the women. Quite unconscious, though, or disregardful, of the interest felt in his movements, he went from door to door with his usual alert indifference.

There was a letter for No. 32! Hardly had it dropped through the door-slit, on to the matting in the "lobby" when it was seized by Mrs. Broadhurst. To her disappointment, though, it was not from Walter, nor was it addressed to her.

"It's from Bob," she said, almost in tears, as she handed it to Nellie.

Nellie seized it eagerly. She forgot for the moment that it would reveal nothing, the telegrams, which were of later date, having shown that Bob was in a state of ignorance. Mrs. Broadhurst, likewise, overlooked this point, and disregardful of the privacy of lovers' letters, glanced over Nellie's shoulder as the latter began to read.

The letter contained no facts which would be new to the reader. It dealt, merely (with lover-like fulness), in topics arising out of Walter's visit, closing with a short account of the parting at Euston. One sentence, though, near the end, alarmed the women.

"Tell Walter (I rant I hope he didn't get to blows with that Yankee. The Yank certainly deserved it, for, of all the cheeky tricks I've ever seen, his, in taking up Walter's place in the doorway —without a word of excuse—was about the cheekiest * * * * *"

The idea of a quarrel was suggested by this—a quarrel on the journey home. Had such an event really happened? If so, was this the explanation, or one of the explanations of Walter's absence? It might be.

"Didn't Sergeant Bullough say something about an American?" Mrs. Broadhurst whispered faintly.

Nellie nodded; and the two women gazed at each other in dire alarm.

"Can't we do something?" Mrs. Broadhurst demanded, with sudden fierceness. "I shall die of fright if this goes on much longer. Where is Walter? What has he done? Why doesn't he come home?"

Nellie, who was more practical, had been considering whether any movement was possible. She folded her hands now, in despair.

"I don't see what we can do," she said gloomily. "We're only women. We must wait and see what will happen next."

What did happen was a visit from Mr. Snape. This gentleman, being busy, had spent the Saturday afternoon at his office. He had telegraphed to Cox's, as promised, and had received a reply. Like the women, he had been hoping that the afternoon post would bring some letter from Broadhurst—but, like them, had been disappointed. He now came over to see if they could throw any further light on his clerk's delay in returning.

"Well, Mrs. Broadhurst," he said, "have you any news yet from your husband?"

Mrs. Broadhurst shook her head apprehensively, and muttered "No."

"Dear, dear!" exclaimed Mr. Snape. "This is getting serious. Can't you throw any light at all on your husband's absence?"

"Indeed, sir," said Mrs. Broadhurst piteously, "I am utterly in the dark. I am quite bewildered how to account for it."

Her extreme distress effected Mr. Snape and caused him to put aside his own annoyance. Whether the clerk was behaving badly or not, the clerk's wife was certainly to be pitied.

"Tut, tut!" he exclaimed. "He might have sent you word what was keeping him, even if he thought fit to keep me in the dark. By the by, I telegraphed to Cox's this morning, and got a reply saying that those papers were duly handed over yesterday. I thought it just possible, before I learnt this, that there might have been some little hitch in that quarter, but, as you see, there wasn't."

Mrs. Broadhurst bowed her head submissively. "I can't make it out," she said in a low voice.

"The papers in question are very important," Mr. Snape continued. "We can't go on with the case until we get them. However, as to-morrow is Sunday, perhaps there'll be no further delay. If he doesn't turn up by Monday morning, I shall have to—to—to consider the matter." He was on the point of concluding with a much stronger expression—a threat, in fact—but checked himself, out of regard for Mrs. Broadhurst's feelings.

After a few formal remarks, Mr. Snape took himself away, leaving Mrs. Broadhurst still more unhappy than he found her. The clouds which were gathering over the poor woman's head were very dark and threatening; a terrible storm seemed about to burst upon her; while she looked here and there for shelter, but looked in vain.

While Mr. Broadhurst was at home, he indulged in a morning paper—and sometimes, when extravagantly disposed, in an evening one, as well. But during his absence, no paper of any kind was delivered at the house. To tell the truth, the two women, who just then made up the household, did not feel the deprivation very keenly.

The next door people on the left were folks of a similar type. As the two families patronized different papers, they sometimes widened their mental horizon by exchanging sheets; and quite frequently, when anything special was going on in the world, if one of the husbands purchased an extra journal, he would send it on by his wife for the other to see. In this way mutual accommodation in the matter of newspapers had become a habit.

Mrs. Broadhurst, therefore was not astonished when, just after Mr. Snape's departure, the neighbors' little boy came to the back door and handed her a paper—with his father's compliments. Usually the boy's mother would run over herself; but she, no doubt, was too busy this evening.

Even left without guidance, Mrs. Broadhurst would, of course, have turned to the latest news from the scene of the accident. Mrs. Hudson, though, had thoughtfully stuck in a pin to indicate something specially interesting; and as this pin pointed to a paragraph in the Gulby news, inclination and a dutiful regard for her neighbor's wish both prompted her in the same direction.

What she read was to much the same effect as the statement in the London paper which had so affected Bob Nicholls. There was the same revelation as to Bent's guiltiness, the same hint as to a confederate or confederates, and, lastly, some remarks respecting the eccentric passenger—who, the paper said, had been traced to Manchester. Far worse than all this (from Mrs. Broadhurst's point of view) there was also given the name and address furnished by the passenger—"Walter Buckle, 32 Edinburgh-terrace, Widdon." With a short cry, Mrs. Broadhurst, on seeing this, sank fainting to the floor.

Nellie, too, was greatly troubled, but she took the blow calmly. She bestirred herself, first, to bring round her sister-in-law; then she sat down, her head on her hands, her elbows on the table, to savagely think out what this meant.

The problem was too hard for her. She knew too few of the conditions to be able to solve it. While she was still pondering, Mr. Ormrod, returning from Manchester, called in to impart his tidings.

He found that his daughter had gone upstairs. Nellie had persuaded her to lie down, after promising that she should be called if need arose. On the whole, Mr. Ormrod was relieved to hear this. It was necessary to take somebody into his confidence, and he preferred that that person should be Nellie. If not quite so intimately concerned as his own child, she certainly had harder nerves.

"Is Walter back?" he asked, the moment the door was opened.

"No," said Nellie gravely.

"Have you heard from him?"

Nellie dragged Mr. Ormrod into the house, and then gave him a brief account of the more salient events of the day; finishing up with an allusion to the evening paper's revelations.

The old man wiped his brow, as she went on from fact to fact. It was not because of warmth, for the evening was frosty. It was on account of a gathering dread that the matter was exceedingly serious.

"See here," he said in a low tone, when she had finished. "Do you recognize that?" He handed her the slip of paper that had fallen out of the hat.

"Yes," she said; "it's Walter's—his writing."

"I thought so."

"I'm sure it is. I know his hand well. But what has this to do with him?"

Mr. Ormrod told her briefly how and where he had found it.

"Great heavens!" ejaculated Nellie. Surprise had followed surprise, revelation had trod closely on the heels of revelation throughout the whole day, that her capacity, now, for being further astonished was strictly limited. Still, this new fact moved her strangely.

"I shall begin to think soon," she said, with a touch of wildness, "that Walter has committed a murder, or something."

"He must have done something," said Mr. Ormrod, gravely. "He is running away from the police—that is clear. And he is keeping himself in hiding."

Nellie again sat down, and, clutching her head, forced her brain to again consider the problem.

"He started by the 1:30 train," she muttered; "and he was in Manchester at 9 o'clock last night. Therefore, he must have come down to Gulby, and gone through the collision. He was in the same compartment, too, with this American—perhaps quarreled with him. This American had a confederate who gave a name very similar to Walter's, and also gave Walter's address. Therefore....... what? No—I can't think it out."

Mr. Ormrod also pondered over the enigma, but his thoughts traveled along a different route.

"It has occurred to me," he said, "that, if Walter was in the collision, his brain might be a little—a—affected. Being in the family."

Nellie nodded. Even this supposition came as a relief. "If only it is but temporary!" she murmured.

"In that case," continued Mr. Ormrod, "one can understand his queer doings, and his going back to London. One could understand, even, his sending that telegram about business, his being up there so recently would suggest the notion."

This seemed very plausible. Nellie quite brightened up under its influence. "That is the reason, no doubt," she said, stoutly. "The idea of Walter committing a crime—why, he wouldn't hurt a fly."

"If so," Mr. Ormrod proceeded, following his own train of thought; "and if the police are really after him, there is, most likely, some mistake on their part. They may be confounding him, for instance, with this confederate. I shouldn't wonder * * * Though, of course, if his brain is——"

To Nellie, this theory of mistake seemed self-evident as soon as it was stated. Had the fact been proved in a court of law, she would not have regarded it as more certain.

"Of course, that is it," she said, sitting up cheerfully. "And the next thing, now, is to find out Walter, and bring him back to his proper senses."

"H'm, yes," said Mr. Ormrod. "That is the next job."

A short silence followed, soon to be broken by a double knock.

"Another telegram," exclaimed Nellie and Mr. Ormrod in chorus.

Nellie answered the door. The message was addressed to her. "From Bob," she concluded. She opened it. Her conjecture proved well founded. This was the message sent by him from the Charing Cross office, saying that Walter had not returned to Killick's.

She read the telegram, and then handed it dumbly to her companion. After he, also, had perused it, their eyes met in painful suspense. "Where is he then?" was the unspoken question which each asked of the other.

"Nellie!" was called. The cry came from the front bedroom. Nellie went to the foot of the stairs, and asked what was the matter.

"Was that from Walter?" Mrs. Broadhurst demanded querulously.

"No. It was from Bob," said Nellie.

"What was it about?"

Nellie took the telegram upstairs and showed it to the much-tried wife. Incidentally she mentioned that Mr. Ormrod was below, whereupon Mrs. Broadhurst insisted on coming down.

Nellie helped her up, and then ran down stairs to apprise Mr. Ormrod. A rapid consultation was held as to whether she should be told of the later developments of the case. Mr. Ormrod was now inclined to reserve his news; but Nellie stoutly urged that Mrs. Broadhurst (as the wife of the man implicated) should, in common honesty, be made acquainted with all that was known—and even with that which was only suspected. In the end she prevailed, and Mrs. Broadhurst, after due preparation, was told of the latest theories of incidents, and of Inspector Marsh's quest for her husband.

Exhausted nature refused to be further alarmed—although the identification of the hat, its annexment by Inspector Marsh, and the remarks of the latter respecting its late owner, seemed more conclusively to point to crime—either rational or irrational—on Walter's part than anything that had before transpired.

"It's all a mistake, all a mistake," wailed the harassed wife. "I'm sure Walter could explain it. If only we could find him——"

(To be Continued.)

PICTURES SENT BY WIRE.

Thomas A. Edison Tells About His Latest Invention.

Thomas A. Edison has about perfected his apparatus for transmitting pictures by wire. By the use of the instrument any kind of a sketch can be sent. In a talk about his new invention Mr. Edison said:

"There is nothing absolutely new in this idea. It is simply a development of the old Casselli system, in which the transmission was made along a sort of pendulum. I had thought out and perfected the machine some years ago, when the telephone came along and stopped me. A business man desiring to give a practical description of a design in dry goods, prints or in forms could make his meaning readily clearer over the telephone.

"It afterward occurred to me that the perfection of this little instrument might benefit my friends in the newspaper profession, and it is for them that I have designed it. I want to say that no newspaper has or will have a monopoly in the autotelegraph. I shall reserve the patent and sell the machines to any newsaper that cares to buy it.

"The process is simple enough. The artist makes his sketch in the usual manner. It doesn't matter what it may be. Directly the drawing is finished he wraps it around the little cylinder at the top of the machine; he presses a button, and in that same instant, while the machines revolve, the man in the newspaper room, say 1,000 miles away, is reproducing that sketch.

"I can now say the instrument is really for use. You could handle it at once with absolute certainty. Before I attempt to put it on the market I shall try to reduce it to a portable size, so that the artist sent to Chicago or St. Louis may carry it in his pocket, dump it down on any kind of telegraph table and transmit the drawing with just as much ease and as little ceremony as he would use in telegraphing a 200 word story.

"In less than four months from this time the instrument in its portable form will be ready for the market. We can now use the instrument at 500 miles with ease, at 1,000 with reasonable accuracy, and before I have finished I will try to span the continent from Frisco to New York."

THE OLD SQUIRE'S SCHEME.

Why His Projected "Coup" On the Race Track Did Not Connect.

Old Squire Workem had been going about for several days buried in deep thought and having as little as possible to say, says the Detroit Free Press. There had been no profit in the grains, fruits or stock that he had raised. He could get nothing out of those who owed him, for they had been squeezed dry. He had plenty, but it had always been the passion of his life to get more. Finally he sent for Link Perkins, a shiftless but shifty Yankee, to whom

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

McKinley Against 16 to 1.

"Popocrats here tell me that McKinley has always been in favor of free silver until his nomination at the St. Louis convention. I disputed it, and they ask me to prove it to them; and one of them offered me a cow if I could show of one time that he had declared against free silver at 16 to 1 before the convention. Please answer in your valuable paper, and tell me where I can get the proof, and oblige a lone Republican in the midst of a Pop. community."—M. R., Inka, Kan.

Well, go to your Populist friend and get your cow. Major McKinley was nominated for governor of Ohio the second time in 1891. He opened the campaign in a speech at Niles, Ohio, on August 22, 1891. In that he explained fully his attitude on the silver question. Here is an extract from that speech, which proves your side of the question fully:

"Governor Campbell declared that while he had his doubts about it, he was willing to chance free and unlimited coinage of silver. I am not willing to 'chance' it. Under present conditions, the country cannot afford to chance it. We cannot gamble with anything so sacred as money, which is the standard and measure of all values. I cannot imagine nothing which would be more disturbing to our credit and more deranging to our commercial and financial affairs than to make this the dumping ground of the world's silver. The silver producer might be benefited, but the silver user, never.

"If there is to be any profit in the coinage of silver, it should go to the government. It has gone to the government ever since the Bland-Allison act. This new declaration would take it from the government and give it to the silver producer.

"Now, the people know that if we have two yard sticks, one three feet in length and the other two and a half feet in length, the buyer would always have his goods measured to him by the shorter stick, and that the longer stick would go into permanent disuse. It is exactly so with money. A 100-cent dollar will go out of circulation alongside an 80-cent dollar, which is a legal tender by the flat of the government. And no class of people will suffer so much as the wage earner and the agriculturist. If it is the farmer you would benefit, there is one way to do it. Make the bushel measure with which he measures his wheat for the buyer, three pecks instead of four, and require the buyer to pay as much for three pecks as he now pays for four.

"I am in favor of the double standard, but I am not in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver in the United States, until the nations of the world shall join us in guaranteeing to silver a status which their laws now accord to gold."

"The double standard implies equality at a ratio, and that equality can only be established by the concurrent laws of nations. It was the concurrent law of nations that made the double standard, and it is the concurrent law of nations to reinstate and sustain it. Until then for us to decree the free and unlimited coinage of the world's silver would ordain that our silver dollars would only depreciate, and gold would go to a premium.

"No man knows what the future may be, but in our present condition and with our present light, every consideration of safety requires us to hold our present status until the other great nations shall agree to an international ratio.

* * * * * *

"The per capita circulation is greater in this country than at any other period before. The amount of money in circulation was about 425 millions of dollars, 1860, and the amount per capita was $13.85. In 1865 there were 725 millions in circulation, and the per capita was $20.82. In 1885 the circulation was $1,292,000,000, and the per capita was $26.02. On January 5, 1891, the circulation was $1,329,000,000, or $24.10 per capita. It may be necessary to increase this circulation, but it cannot be done, and must not be done with silver dollars that are worth less than 100 cents each in value."

Where McKinley stood in 1891, he stands to-day.

The Republican party stood there in 1892, and it stands there to-day. The above extracts are exactly in line with the monetary plank of the St. Louis platform.

The Popocrats should understand that free coinage at 16 to 1 means silver monometallism. The only road to bimetallism is by international agreement.

St. Louis Bolters.

"A leading Populist in this community claims that 300 Republicans bolted the St. Louis convention, and were afterwards sent to the Chicago convention here to help make a free silver platform. Please state the facts in the case, and of what was the Chicago convention composed?"—J. B. R., Hixson, Tenn.

The national Republican convention at St. Louis contained about 900 delegates. Those who left the hall were 8 delegates from Colorado, 6 from Idaho, 3 from Utah, 1 from North Dakota, 1 from Montana and 2 from Nevada. None of these were delegates to the Chicago convention afterward. These are the facts in the case. The Chicago gathering was the national Democratic convention, and its delegates were chosen by the Democrats.

War Finances.

"How much gold or par money had we borrowed at the close of the war to prosecute the same, and what part of our obligations were taken by citizens of the United States? What was the average discount between our paper money or bonds, and the said par money?"—W. C., Ross Station, Ind.

Such question are almost impossible of satisfactory answer. For instance, it is impossible to give a correct answer to the first, because, the time inquired about is thirty-one years ago. It might be found by search in the Treasury department, but would not be worth the labor.

No one can tell what part of our government obligations were held at any time by foreigners, and what part at home, because there is no way of finding out. How could a record of such things be kept?

When the currency is depreciated, it is always figured as a premium on gold. From 1862 to 1878, the price of gold (measured in currency) fluctuated daily. The highest in 1862 was 132, the lowest 102. The highest in 1864 was 285, the lowest 1514, and so on.

Citizenship and Voting.

"How long does a foreign-born citizen have to be in the United States before he can vote in any election? Is ther any difference in the length of time a foreigner has to be here in the different states to entitle him to a vote? A man argued with me that a foreigner could vote in Indiana in six months. Is this ever the case?"—A. J. W., Walnut, Ill.

The United States alone can confer citizenship on aliens. Citizenship does not necessarily mean the right to vote. A child born in the United States is a citizen from his birth, but he can not vote until he is of proper age. A woman born here is a citizen of the United States, but in most of the states she can not vote at all.

The right to vote is conferred by the states. Naturalization belongs solely to the national government. In nearly half the states of the Union aliens who have declared their intention to become citizens can vote before being fully naturalized. In the other half of the states they can not vote until fully naturalized. The law of Indiana confers the right to vote on aliens who have declared intention, after they have lived one year in the United States, and six months in Indiana.

Expirations of Terms.

"Do the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Pensions go out, or their terms expire, in March or in June? We are tired of the hoky poky pension policy and would be glad to know when we could get a change."—S. F. R., Buckner, N. C.

The terms of all cabinet officers expire with the appointment of their successors; and the Senate will be called in extra session on March 4, to act on the nominations for his cabinet to be sent in by President McKinley. The term of the present commissioner will end when his successor is appointed, which will be shortly after the new administration gets in.

Cape Cod Harbor.

"Will you please tell me if there is a Cape Cod harbor and whereabouts is it on the Cape?"—H. J., Edgewood, Iowa.

Take any large map of Massachusetts—for instance, that on page 12 of The Blade's atlas, advertised on the 5th page of this issue—and you will find Cape Cod Harbor. It lies to the south of the extremity of Cape Cod, which bends over to the west, and Provincetown lies on the shore of Cape Cod Harbor.

Would Be Bad Faith.

"If the bonds of the United States read payable in standard coin why can't they be paid in silver?"—W. F. R., Dickerson Run, Pa.

In the first place, there are no bonds due, and therefore none to be paid off. None have been redeemed since about 1891, because none are due. There will be none to be due until 1904—eight years hence. Therefore there is no particular worry about the subject, is there?

Second, as a matter of actual fact, no bonds are redeemed in gold, nor is any interest paid in gold. The actual payments are made in "legal tenders"—that is, greenbacks. Then, if for any purpose the receiver needs gold, he can take greenbacks to the Treasury and get gold. See answer headed "Secretary Carlisle," in the Question Bureau of last week.

Third, there is not a bond outstanding for which the government did not receive gold value. It would be bad faith to pay in anything of less value than gold value. If the policy were adopted of paying in silver dollars or silver certificates, this would be exercising a preference for gold, and the result would be that silver would fall below gold value.

Fourth, it would be no easier to pay in silver than in gold or money of gold value, because every dollar in the Treasury was paid into it on a gold basis. Why, then, upset our monetary system when no good could result, but only harm?

Civil Service Reform.

"What material changes, if any, has the Democratic administration made on the civil service laws?"—M. S. C., El Campo, Tex.

The law has not been changed during the present administration, but its provisions have been extended, by order of the President, so as to cover a much larger number of offices than ever before.

The McKinley Tariff.

"Did the McKinley bill raise or lower the tariff on an average? What was the object of a revision in the tariff laws at that time?"—E. N. Woodville, O.

It raised the duties on some articles, lowered it on others, and put a large number of non-competing imports on the free list.

Do not you remember the campaign of 1884, and how the Democrats howled because there was a surplus in the Treasury? The tariff law of 1883 produced more revenue than was necessary to meet the current expenses of the government, and this surplus was used to buy bonds, retire them, and thus stop the interest thereon. But the Democrats yelled that there was no need of raising more money than the government required for expenses; and the McKinley law was enacted to reduce the revenue and yet maintain protection. It reduced the revenues, but not below the needs of the government.

Bureau of American Republics.

"Please give me the address of the Bureau of American Republics. This is not the name of a person or firm and is of general interest."—J. O. S., Villisca, Iowa.

The address is: "The Bureau of the American Republics, No. 2 Lafayette square, Washington, D. C."

Cost of the Indians.

"How much does it cost the government to keep the Indians annually? I mean all the Indians in the United States."—C. R., Ballard, Mo.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1895, the total expenditures on behalf of the Indians were $9,939,754. In 1894 the total was over 10 millions; in 1893, over 13 millions.

No National Holidays.

"Please give in the Toledo Blade the national holidays, and oblige a subscriber."—F. M., Stacy, Minn.

The Blade has stated a number of times that there is not a single national holiday. Congress has never passed a law making any day in the United States—not even July 4. Holiday are established by state laws, not by laws of Congress. July 4 is a legal holiday in all the states except Kansas, which has no statutory holidays; and Thanksgiving Day is observed in all the states, though in some of them it is not a statutory holiday.

Coining the Silver.

"I heard a Popocrat speaker say during the campaign that really there had not been a silver dollar coined in 1896, but all that were coined were to merely redeem silver certificates that were presented. Hence no more silver in circulation now than there was on January 1. I want to know if this is true or false."—H. I., Warren, Ind.

It is false, of course. It is singular that Popocrats can not tell the truth as to plain facts. In the first place, there is not a single certificate issued, and has not been since they were authorized in 1878, until the coined silver dollars which that certificate represents were in the Treasury. Hence there is no need of coining others to "redeem" the silver certificates for the silver dollars to redeem every outstanding silver certificate are lying ready coined in the Treasury.

There have been more silver dollars coined during 1896 than were coined from 1792 to 1873. That is the truth of the matter. When the mint report for the calendar year is issued, we will print the exact figures in The Blade.

Ring, Thimble, Spoon.

"Will you please tell what significance has the ring, thimble and spoon in the bride's cake? The Question Bureau in your valuable paper is simply immense. It is an education of itself. I always turn to it first."—L. S., Holton, Kan.

When the cake is cut, the articles remain in different slices. The young lady who gets the ring in her slice will be married within the year; the one who gets the thimble will be an old maid. But about the spoon, we can not tell. We never heard of its being used.

Legislative Employes.

"Do employes serving in the legislative branch of the government, viz., Senate, House of Representatives, and Congressional library, serve four years or for Congressional term only?"—J. H. L., Morristown, Ind.

Each member of the House and Senate appoints his own clerk, who is paid by the government, and who holds as long as the man who appointed him holds office. The various employes of the House and Senate hold office during one Congress—two years. We think the Congressional library employes are under civil service rules.

Ik Marvel.

"Please tell something about Donald G. Mitchell (Ik Marvel). Have tried in vain to find something about him and his works?"—B. A. B., Kendallville, Ind.

Donald Grant Mitchell, author, was born at Norwich, Conn., April 12, 1822; graduated at Yale in 1841, and spent the next three years on a farm for the benefit of his health. Here he acquired that taste for farm life to which he gave pleasant expression in his "Edgewood" books. His health continuing delicate, he went abroad in 1844, spending a year in England, Ireland, Italy and Jersey, and on the continent. In 1846 he returned home, and the next year published a book of his travels, entitled "Fresh Gleanings." The study of law in New York proved too confining, and he went to Europe again in 1848, and traveled in England, France and Switzerland. He returned to New York in 1849, and in 1850 published "Reveries of a Bachelor," his most popular book. "Dream Life," in the same strain, was published the next year. In May, 1853, he was appointed consul to Venice, and the same month married Miss Mary Pringle, of Charleston, S. C. In 1855 he bought a farm near New Haven, which he has since made well known through a series of books on the practical and asthetic aspects of rural life. He has contributed much to the leading magazines, besides a number of books, one of which is a novel, "Dr. Johns." His pen name is "Ik (not Ike) Marvel."

Why He Quit.

"Well, I see Old Banks has finally quit smoking. I heard his doctor tell him over a year ago that unless he stopped it would kill him, and his wife has been at him about it ever since."

"But that wasn't what made him swear off. His typewriter girl objected to his breath."—Cleveland Leader.

ODDS AND ENDS.

It is said that women are not permitted to be photographed in China.

The lighthouses on the Denmark coasts are supplied with oil, which is pumped on the waves in time of storms.

In the Norway fjords the clearness of the water is remarkable. Objects as large as a half-dollar may be seen thirty fathoms down.

At the bottom of the deep seas the water is only a few degrees above the freezing point.

The year of mars is almost twice as long as that of our planet, having 687 days of our time.

A great photographic camera for taking life-size pictures has been made in Dublin. The camera takes a plate seven feet high and five wide.

A piece of iron has been found in an air passage of the great pyramid and it is supposed to have been there since 3700 B. C.

A French explorer recently found a loaf of bread supposed to have been baked 500 B. C. It certainly did not resemble the kind mother used to make.

The temperature of the earth advances one degree for every fifty-nine feet of descent. At thirty miles below it is supposed the metals and rocks are at white heat.

It is to the manner in which different colors are absorbed or reflected by a body that its color is due. If white light falls upon a red rose the rose still reflects red because red rays are the only ones absorbed by the flower.

Woman's Work

Is never done, and it is especially wearing and wearisome to those whose blood is impure and unfit properly to sustain the wasting of nerve, muscle and tissue. The only remedy for tired, weak, nervous women is in building up by taking a good nerve tonic, blood purifier and vitalizer like Hood's Sarsaparilla. For troubles *Peculiar to Women* at change of season, climate or life, take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills All druggists. 25 cents. do not cause pain or gripe.

"'TIS LOVE THAT MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND."

Some people think money is a greater power than love. Oh! What a mistake! See how the great money kings are controlled by the little boy Cupid! See how the great soldiers and men of power are twisted around his little fingers!

A woman's most precious possession is the capacity for awakening pure and noble love. More potent than wit or intellect is the womanly capacity for happy wifehood and motherhood.

A woman who is weak or diseased in the special organism of her sex is deprived of the power and prestige which naturally belong to her. Such troubles are not a necessity. Perfect health and strength of the feminine organism is insured by proper care and the aids afforded by enlightened medical science. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures all weaknesses and diseases of woman's special organism.

For nearly 30 years Dr. Pierce has been chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. No other physician has had a more extensive practice or greater success in the treatment of women's diseases. No other such perfect and scientific remedy for these ailments has ever been devised. It has restored health, strength and womanly power to tens of thousands of women.

Women who would understand their own powers and possibilities should read Doctor Pierce's thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." It is the most interesting and enlightening book of the kind ever published. A paper-bound copy will be sent absolutely free to any one sending 21 one-cent stamps to pay the cost of mailing *only*. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For a handsome cloth-bound copy send 31 stamps.

DRUMMER BOY OF SHILOH.

Written by John W. Thompson on the Battle Field.

John W. Thompson, a war veteran of Gladwin, is an eccentric character. He says that while on the battlefield he composed the following poem, which is entitled "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh:"

On Shiloh's dark and bloody ground,
The dead and wounded lay;
Among them was a drummer boy,
Who beat the drum that day.
A wounded soldier held him up,
His drum was by his side,
He clasped his hands and raised his eyes,
And prayed before he died.

Look down upon the battle field,
Oh thou our Heavenly Friend;
Have mercy on our sinful souls,
The soldier cried, "Amen."
And gathered round the little group,
Each brave man knelt and cried;
They listened to the drummer boy,
Who prayed before he died.

Oh, Jesus, said the drummer boy,
Look down from heaven on me;
Receive me to thy fond embraces,
And take me home to Thee.
I love my country and my God,
To serve them both I've tried.
He smiled, shook hands, death seized the boy,
Who prayed before he died.

Each soldier wept then like a child,
Stout hearts were there, and brave,
The flag his dying hand did hold, God's book
They laid upon his grave.
They wrote upon a simple board,
These words: "This is the guide,"
To those that mourn the drummer boy,
Who prayed before he died.

Ye angels round the throne of grace,
Look down upon the brave,
Who fought and died on Shiloh's plains,
Now slumber in their graves.
How many homes made desolate,
How many hearts have sighed,
How many like the drummer boy,
Who prayed before he died.

Residents of Gladwin have heard Mr. Thompson sing the words so often they have them nearly committed to memory. He is proud of his composition, and wants to have it heard. Whenever the veteran finds himself in a crowd, the crowd listens to the "Drummer Boy of Shiloh." This holds good if Mr. Thompson has to sing it thirty times a day.—Detroit Journal.

BOLERO FOR THE HOUSE.

A Dainty Thing That Makes a Plain Old Dress Bright and Becoming.

From Paris comes the bolero. And it looks as if it had come to stay, for we have boleros of all kinds of light goods, every day seeing something new in them. Very inexpensive they are if made of odds and ends of satin, silk and

BOLERO OF CHIFFON.

velvet, and remarkably nice for dressing up an old gown.

One of the latest Parision confections is a bolero of black chiffon that can be slipped on over any bodice to lend an air of festivity to a toilet. At the back the chiffon is put on full with six rows of shirring that draws it down tight to the lining. The shirring at the front is pushed together to make six full puffs. Two full bouillons of black chiffon are placed at the armhole and fall nearly to the elbow. Black velvet ribbon and brass buttons trim the bolero.

When worn with an old white canvas cloth gown that had a black velvet belt the effect was decidedly new and charming. These are the little things that make house dresses elegant to look upon, yet cost almost nothing.

—Andrew Carnegie has written an article on "The Habit of Thrift" for the next volume of The Youth's Companion.

EVE AND ADAM.

How Many Apples Did They Eat, After All?

How many apples did Adam and Eve eat?

Some say Eve 8 and Adam 2—a total of 10 only.

But think a little further, and it becomes plain that Eve 8 and Adam 8 also—total, 16.

But one must also consider that if Eve 8 and Adam 82, the total will be 90.

Scientific men, however, on the strength of the theory that the antediluvians were a race of giants, reason something like this—Eve 81 and Adam 82—total, 163.

But then, again, what could be clearer than if Eve 81 and Adam 812 the total was 893?

Following this line, however, it is also clear that Eve 814 Adam, and Adam 8124 Eve, making the total 8,928.

Still another calculation is as follows: If Eve 814 Adam, Adam 81242 oblige Eve—total, 82,056.

She Didn't.

Tom—I don't know whether she sings or not.

Jack—She doesn't; I heard her.—London Pick-Me-Up.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

Kate Carnegie, by Ian Maclaren, which ran as a serial in The Bookman and is the first long story of the author, has now made its appearance in book form. That it is equal in construction and finish to Dr. Watson's short stories can not be admitted, but it is a good description of Scotch life and of Scottish traits of character. Most of the actors in the scenes described the reader has known in Drumtochty, but they do not appear with any added interest, and really do not help in carrying along the story.

The chief personages are Kate Carnegie, who has just returned from the battlefields of India with her wounded father, and John Carmichael, the new minister of the Drumtochty Free Kirk, who loves Kate at first sight. At the last page he wins her, but he makes some almost fatal mistakes in the interim. One is his sermon in which he calls Mary Queen of Scots a Scottish Jezebel, and sends Miss Kate bounding out of her pew for indignation. Another is the sermon in which he scores just a hair's breadth from strict Calvinism. Old Dr. Saunderson, his superior, who loves him as a father, ascends the pulpit after such and preaches such a sermon as makes the timid writhe. The sorrow with which the old doctor performs what he believes to be his duty, in arraigning young Carmichael before the presbytery, is strongly portrayed. This is one of the best things in the book. Margaret Howe is presented in the same beautiful light as when she was first made known to us in earlier works. She is the confidant of the two estranged lovers. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York are the publishers.

The Little Regiment, by Stephen Crane, is a collection of stories full of the blood, thunder and daring that characterizes this author's work. There is always a certain vivid picturing in the scenes described which has an extreme fascination, but the stories lack coherency as a whole.

The best of those contained in the present collection is, perhaps, the one entitled A Mystery of Heroism. The following is an outline: A waiting company of soldiers were lined up on the edge of bullet-swept field, in the middle of which stood a well. One of the number, impelled by the dare-devil spirit that comes to men under the stimulus of great excitement, offered to go out and get some water from the well. He obtained permission from his superior officer and reached the well in safety. As he lay at the side of the well, waiting for one of the canteens to fill, he was suddenly smitten with terror.

In spite of this panic, as he ran across the terrible space, he turned back to give a dying man a drink. Arrived at shelter-wood among his companions, he was received with cheers. The fire-baptized buck-ets was seized by two young lieutenants, who began playfully to scuffle over it. One knocked the other's elbow as he tried to drink. Suddenly there was an oath, a thud, and the empty bucket lay on the ground, as the precious water trickled away.

D. Appleton & Co., New York, are the publishers. Cloth, $1.00.

Friendly Letters to Girl Friends, by Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney, is a volume made up of letters which appeared in the Ladies' Home Journal and have now been collected in this permanent form. The following are some of the topics which this popular author discusses in these pages: The World of Books; Books of Our Girlhood; Outlook of Literature; Poetry; Spirit and Form in Poetry; Society; Clothes; Beauty; Work; Marriage and Religion. In the opening letter, My Girlhood's Friend, the author pays a tribute to the man who most influenced her life, her teacher, George B. Emerson, a Bostonian of the Sage of Concord. Mrs. Whitney's writings are always pure and wholesome, and therefore helpful. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston are the publishers.

James, or Virtue Rewarded, is the story of a young man who started out in life with fine prospects and every encouragement to do well. Unfortunately he was not strong enough to act up to his opportunities, his head being turned, and he became a villain, more to be despised for his weakness than to be pitied. Stone & Kimball, of New York, are the publishers.

Another bound volume of The Century, including the numbers of the magazine for the past six months, has made its appearance. The volume contains the conclusion of Professor Sloane's Life of Napoleon, with all of the dramatic interest that crowded the Corsican's career from Waterloo to St. Helena. There is also the last half of Mrs. Ward's Sir George Tressady, generally conceded to be her strongest novel. There are three novelettes: The Harshaw Bride, by Mary Hallock Foote; the Open-Eyed Conspiracy, by W. D. Howells; and Prisoners of Conscience, by Amelia E. Barr. A group of papers by Mr. James Bryce, impressions of South Africa, is the most important record of the political development of a great country. Kindred to these are the three papers made up from the journals of the late E. J. Glave, describing the British efforts for the suppression of the Arab slave trade. Notable single papers are the illustrated articles on Venezuela and Guiana, by W. Nephew King and Thomas Dalgleish, on Life in a Russian Village, by W. A. Foster; The Crowning of a Czar, by Miss Thornton; About French Children, by Th. Bentzon, with pictures by Boutet de Monvel; two articles on Rome by Marion Crawford, with pictures by Castaigne, and two on Spain by Mrs. Pennell, with drawings by Joseph Pennell; In Bohemia with Du Maurier, by Felix Moscheles, with a number of hitherto unpublished drawings by Du Maurier himself, etc. Art is also represented by several other papers, and by many illustrations drawn by leading artists. There are short stories by many popular writers. The Century Co., Union Square, New York city. Price, $3.

A second edition of the book entitled Welcome Englishmen, or Pilgrims, Puritans and Roger Williams Vindicated, and Universal Sentence of Banishment Ought to be Revoked, by Rev. T. M. Merriman, M. A., has made its appearance, showing the interest it has aroused in the subject treated of. The author, who has long been a careful student of New England history, has made here a vigorous attempt to show that the great apostle of civil and religious freedom was really the accused and persecutor in many vital points, that he was deeply wronged, and that his memory should be righted. The book arraigns the intolerant spirit which the Britains have exhibited towards those who did not think exactly with them, and strongly advocates the right as he sees it to-day. It is published by the Arena Company, Boston. Cloth, $1.25.

The numbers of St. Nicholas for the past year, bound in two parts, contain the material for half a dozen of the usual juvenile books. There are more than a thousand pages in all, and more than 700 pictures. Four complete, richly illustrated serial stories are The Swordmaker's Son, by W. O. Stoddard; The Prize Cup, by J. T. Trowbridge; Teddy and Carrots, by James Otis; and Sinbad, Smith & Co., by Albert Stearns. Besides these there are scores of stories, sketches and poems that make special appeal to boys and girls. Sarah Orne Jewett gives a glimpse of the Christmas customs of another land and of life in a famous country house in Betty Leicester's English Christmas. How a Street Car Came in a Stocking, and A Christmas White Elephant, are two other stories of the holiday that is sacred to childhood. Instructive and entertaining papers tell all about A School for Firemen, Shooting Stars that Reach the Earth, Launching a Great Vessel, The Olympian Games, The Pallo at Siena, At School a Hundred Years Ago, and Out-of-the-Way Corners of Westminster. Then there are a number of patriotic articles intended for all young Americans; some true stories about distinguished people and about animals, as well as tales of adventure and brave achievement; and fanciful tales and fairy stories, and stories about every-day nineteenth century boys and girls themselves. The Century Co., New York city. In two parts, price $4.

Rome of To-Day and Yesterday—The Pagan City, by John Dennie, is a magnificent volume which has reached its third edition, giving, the author says, the results of a rather wide range of special reading, and of a prolonged, leisurely examination of each one of those columns and masses of masonry and arches and ornaments and fragmentary pavements which collectively are called "the ruins of ancient Rome." Rome is the great historic city, and in those things lie the story of what is called her eleven pagan centuries. Mr. Dennie has undertaken to explain what they mean, and the purpose for which the buildings were erected. By means of many fine photographs the book is splendidly illustrated. There are also maps and plans to make the text clearer. The work is a splendid addition to any library. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York city, are the publishers.

She Knew.

Voice at the Telephone—Major, will you please bring your family and take supper with us next Sunday?

Servant Girl (replies back through telephone)—Master and mistress are not in at present, but they can come to supper, as it's my Sunday out.—Boston Globe.

A Silverite's Wedding.

"You will be married at high noon, I suppose?" said Tenspot to his free silver friend.

"I shall be married at 16 minutes to 1," replied the white metal man.—Detroit Free Press.

Her Query.

Mabel—Whose picture, Jack?

Jack (with confusion)—That's my sister. She's married and lives in Australia.

Mabel (calmly)—Sister by birth or by rejection?—Washington Capital.

SEND FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE FAMOUS O.I.C. HOGS TWO OF WHICH WEIGHED 2806 lbs.

FIRST APPLICANT IN EACH LOCALITY SECURES A PAIR ON TIME & AGENCY.

SOLD 1199 HEAD FIRST 6 MONTHS 1896 FOR BREEDING PURPOSES.

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$2.80 COSTS NOTHING TO TRY IT. SEND NO MONEY. WRITE TO-DAY FOR OUR MAMMOTH CATALOGUE. Cut this ad out and send to us, state number inches around body at breast and we will send the cape to your nearest express office by express C.O.D. subject to examination, you can examine it and if found perfectly satisfactory and A Wonder for the Money pay the express agent Our Special Offer Price $2.80 and express charges.

Very Latest Style Double Cape made from extra quality heavy Imported English all wool Black Beaver cloth, upper cape and collar beautifully edged with genuine electric seal fur, rolling storm collar, very full sweep. DON'T BUY A CAPE, JACKET OR FURS until you have seen our beautiful cloak catalogue and samples of cloth, mailed free for the asking. All the latest styles at lowest wholesale prices. Address

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Mention Blade.

FOUND A STAR.

At Last a Great Telescope Spies Procyon's Companion.

The discovery of the companion to Procyon by Assistant Schaeberle, of the Lick Observatory, as announced by a telegram, has greatly aroused the interest of astronomers here, says the New York Sun. For Procyon's consort has been very shy. Heretofore it was possible to surmise that Procyon had a consort only by observing some hidden influences on Procyon. The star altered its ways. It did things a single star would never do. And about a star that behaves in that way much the same long distance inference may be drawn as about a man.

"If this news from Mount Hamilton is true," said Garnett P. Serviss yesterday, "and I know no reason why it should be doubted, it tells us one of the most interesting dramatic incidents in modern astronomy. For half a century or more astronomers have been certain that Procyon had an invisible companion. Bessel, the German astronomer, or possibly Struve, the Russian, or it may have been both of them, were convinced 50 years ago by their observation of irregularities in the movements of Procyon that some tremendous unseen mass quite close to the star was acting upon it. Their conclusions had been generally accepted by astronomers. But hope of ever obtaining visual evidence of the existence of Procyon's companion was almost abandoned. We had just a chance of finding it by means of the spectroscope. The spectroscope, of course, would not reveal the companion itself, but would confirm the mathematical computations upon which the belief in its existence was founded.

"The dispatch gives no details to show by what means Schaeberle was enabled to see the planet. He is a man with excellent eyes, but he is Barnard. Barnard, whose reputation is based on his wonderful observation of twin stars, had also, I know, observed Procyon carefully through the Lick telescope. It is possible that the companion has only lately become visible. The big telescopes have only been available for about ten years. All that time until now the companion may have been too close to Procyon or too faint to have been visible. If the companion has had an elliptical orbit, either of these causes might have prevented observers from seeing it. The companion of Sirius has been hidden from observers since 1890, and has only lately been rediscovered. It was too faint because of its proximity to Sirius for even the biggest telescopes to enable us to see it. But in 1896, following its elliptical orbit, it got far enough away from Sirius so that it came within the range of the Bolles and Lick telescopes almost simultaneously.

"The discovery of the companion to Procyon not only is a triumph for Schaeberle, but is even a greater triumph for Bessel and Struve, who asserted the existence of the planet upon the authority of purely mathematical calculations.

"Bessell announced in 1844 that Procyon had a companion. Struve thought he had discovered the companion in 1873. But the discovery proved to be illusory. It was looked for very carefully by Mr. Burnham a few years ago with the same telescope with which it has now been discovered, but nothing was then seen of it. The distance of the unseen companion has heretofore been computed at about the distance of Jupiter from the sun; the shape of its orbit has been supposed to be nearly circular, and the period of revolution 40 or 50 years.

"The event recalls the discovery of Neptune under similar circumstances in the early forties. At that time Leverrier, in France, and Adams, in England, determined by mathematical analysis on the basis of disturbances by attraction in the motions of Uranus, that there was an unknown planet out beyond Uranus. They computed its mass, distance, and position. Leverrier sent his data to a friend at the Brussels observatory, and the friend, pointing his telescope as Leverrier directed him, found the new planet's discovered planet in the field of his instrument.

"People who want to look at Procyon may identify it as one of the two bright stars on either side of the planet Mars. Procyon is the one to the north. The whole incident shows how the old citadels of mystery are crumbling before the modern scientific engines."

You Can Be Well

When your blood is pure, rich and nourishing for nerves and muscles. The blood is the vital fluid, and when it is poor, thin and impure you must either suffer from some distressing disease or you will easily fall a victim to sudden changes, exposure or overwork. Keep your blood pure with Hood's Sarsaparilla and be well.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best after-dinner pill; assist digestion, cure headache. 25 cents.

CHOICE MORSELS.

Wife (dejectedly)—I'm a perfect fright! Husband (consolingly)—No mortal is perfect, dearest.

Miss Scraggs—Yes; once, when I was out alone on a dark night, I saw a man, and, oh, my goodness, how I ran! "And did you catch him, Miss Scraggs?"

One matron—Since I have been married I have taught my husband good taste. Another—Really? It is a good thing for you that you did not teach him before you were married.

Bunson (amazed)—That your uncle! Why, you told me your uncle had both his legs carried away at Sedan. Jimson—So he did. He carried them away himself, pretty fast, I tell you!

Husband (to wife)—I can not conceive what is the matter with my watch; I think it must want cleaning. Spoiled child (breaking in)—Oh, father, I don't think it needs cleaning. Baby and I had it washing in the blasin for ever so long this morning.

"I hardly think," said the lawyer, "that you can get a separation from your wife on account of her making a practice of throwing things at the dog." "But," said the man with the haggard look and the black eye, "every time she throws at the dog she hits me!"

They were spending a week in London on their bridal tour, and were one day looking at the monument. "There is nothing so high in this city as this, is there, love?" she asked, with bride-like confidence. "Yes, darling," he replied (there is). "Why, love, I didn't know it. What is it? Take me to see it, won't you?" "Yes, darling. It is the price of board and lodging, and you may see it when I get the bill."

The editor was one day confronted by a gentleman, who claimed: "In your paper you report that I am dead!" "You may rely," said the editor "on the truth of everything you read in our journal." But his visitor was not comforted by this assurance, and asked that a contradiction should be published in the next issue. To this the editor firmly declined to assent, but being pressed to make some amends, he finally offered to insert the gentleman's name in the following day's list of births.—Tid Bits.

—Hoarseness, from whatever cause, is soonest dispelled with Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant.

—The Best Pill—Jayne's Sanative.

Browning.

As when amid some vast orchestral din
The organ's deep majestic sound is heard;
So doth thy voice with life's great mystery stirred,
Sweep o'er the strife of flute and violin.
—Robert Adger Bowen in The Bookman.

A Popular Nail.

Blackner—How did you tear your coat?
Reddy—Caught it on a nail in Wigley's store. I made him pay me $20 for the damage, though.
Blackner—That so? Is the nail there yet?
—Roxbury Gazette.

His Portrait.

"What kind of a man is Higby?"
"Well, he's the kind that would pay an election bet with a bargain-counter hat."
—Chicago Record.

A Superior Being.

"What makes all the girls dislike Beatrice so much?"
"Why, you see she has naturally curly hair."—Chicago Record.

Good morning. Have you read Thos. Slater's offer for men on page 3?

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Cannigu.

C. M. B., Indiana: Cannigu has been cultivated to a considerable extent, if the editor remembers correctly, in Colorado, but where seed can be had he can not say. You will no doubt learn much about this plant that has attracted much attention on account of its usefulness for tanning purposes by addressing Alston Ellis, president Agricultural Experiment station, Fort Collins, Colorado. Also write Hon. J. Sterling Morton, United States secretary of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Nits on Horses.

W. F. G., Alabama: The gad fly or bot is the fly that deposits its eggs on the hair of the horses by means of a glutinous substance. The deposits are made very rapidly. These eggs are taken into the mouth by the animal licking himself or his mate, and are hatched upon the tongue, or pass into the stomach before they are hatched. When hatched in the stomach the larvæ is known by the familiar name of bots. The parts upon which the eggs are deposited are the shoulder, base of the neck, and the inner part of the forelegs, especially about the knees. The eggs may be scraped off and burned, or the eggs may be washed off with hot water and baking soda. A little lard and tar rubbed on the parts attacked during the fly season will go far toward preventing the depesit of eggs. As to how long a colt should suck after a mare is in foal, it is only necessary to say that the period of pregnancy varies from 44 to 56 weeks. Within a month or six weeks after foaling, the mare will be again in heat, and should be put to the horse. Whether the mare becomes pregnant or not, according to the growth of the colt, it should be weaned in five or six months.

Business of Cow Culture.

Among the many good things said by Secretary F. D. Coburn before the animal union of the Kansas State Dairy Association, is the following: "One of the most important features connected with the business of cow culture is that those who are properly in it, with many or few cows, have money every month in the year, and are thus able to take the benefit of those advantages innumerable which are always confronting a cash buyer, and as invariably eluding the man who must ask for credit until this or that uncertain crop is grown, harvested and marketed. A striking illustration of what a proper appreciation of the cow will do for a people is afforded by that speck on the map described as "little, insignificant, ice-bound Denmark," a country one-sixth the size of Kansas, away toward the North Pole. Not many years ago, when their soils had become so impoverished by it that ordinary farming was no longer affording any profit, her people cautiously and in a small way took up dairying. Entering upon the work in earnest they now monopolize the importing butter trade of Great Britain, from which country alone they receive about $25,000,000 per year for butter, while the whole United States sells there but $700,000 worth. Canada with her high-priced land and cold, long winters is coming to dominate the English cheese markets in the same way, and a continuous stream of British gold is flowing into their pockets, although Canucks, not because their natural advantages are superior or in any wise equal to ours, but because of their skill and mother wit, which enable them to successfully and at the same time milk the cow with one h

Talmage's Sermon.

THE CELESTIAL WORLD.

Man's Work on the Earth Amplified and Beautified.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Dr. Talmage's sermon Sunday gave a very unusual view of the celestial world, and is one of the most unique discourses of the great preacher. The text is Ezekiel 1:1: "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened."

Ezekiel, with others, had been expatriated and while in foreign slavery, was standing on the banks of the royal canal which he and other serfs had been condemned to dig by the order of Nebuchednezzar—this royal canal in the text called the river of Chebar—the illustrious exile had visions of heaven. Indeed, it is almost always so, that the brightest visions of heaven come not to those who are on mountain-top of prosperity, but to some John on desolate Patmos, or to some Paul in Mamertine dungeon, or to some Ezekiel standing on the banks of a ditch he had been compelled to dig—yea, to the weary, to the heart-broken, to those whom sorrow has banished. The text is very particular to give us the exact time of the vision. It was in the thirtieth year, and in the fourth month, and in the fifth day of the month. So you have visions of earth you shall never forget. You remember the year, you remember the month, you remember the day, you remember the hour. Why may we not have some such vision now, and it be the twelfth month, and in the sixth day of the month?

The question is often silently asked, though perhaps never audibly propounded: "What are our departed Christian friends doing now?" The question is more easily answered than you might suppose. Though there has come no recent intelligence from the heavenly city, and we seem dependent upon the story of eighteen centuries ago, still I think we may from strongest inference decide what are the present occupations of our transferred kinsfolk. After God has made a nature he never eradicates the chief characteristic of its temperament. You never knew a man phlegmatic in temperament to become sanguine in temperament. You never knew a man sanguine in temperament to become phlegmatic in temperament. Conversion plants new principles in the soul, but Paul and John are just as different from each other after conversion as they were different from each other before conversion. If conversion does not eradicate the prominent characteristics of temperament, neither will death eradicate them. Paul and John are as different from each other in heaven as they were different from each other in Asia Minor.

You have then only to put a sum in subtraction and a sum in addition to decide what are the employments of your departed friends in the better world. You are to subtract from them all earthly grossness, and add all earthly goodness, and then you are to come to the conclusion that they are doing now in heaven what in their best moments they did on earth. The reason why so many people never start for heaven is because they could not stand it if they got there if it should turn out to be the rigid and formal place some people photograph it. We like to come to church, but we would not want to stay here till next summer. We like to hear the "Hallelujah Chorus," but we would not want to hear it all the time for 50 centuries. It might be, on some great occasion, it would be possibly comfortable to wear a crown of gold weighing several pounds, but it would be an affliction to wear such a crown forever. In other words, we run the descriptions of heaven into the ground while we make that which was intended as especial and celebrative to be the exclusive employment in heaven. You might as well, if asked to describe the habits of American society, describe a Decoration day or a Fourth of July, or an autumnal Thanksgiving, as though it were all the time that way.

I am not going to speculate in regard to the future world, but I must, by inevitable laws of inference and deduction and common sense conclude that in heaven we will be just as different from each other as we are now different, and hence that there will be at least as many different employments in the celestial world as there are employments here. Christ is to be the great love, the great joy, the great rapture, the great worship of heaven, but will that abolish employments? No more than love on earth—paternal, filial, fraternal, conjugal love, abolishes earthly occupation.

In the first place, I remark that all those of our departed Christian friends, who, on earth, found great joy in the fine arts, are now indulging their tastes in the same direction. On earth they had their gladdest pleasures amid pictures and statuary, and in the study of the laws of light and shade and perspective. Have you any idea that that affluence of faculty at death collapsed and perished? Why so, when there is more for them to look at and they have keener appreciation of the beautiful, and they stand amid the very looms where the sunsets and the rainbows and the spring mornings are woven? Are you so obtuse as to suppose that because the painter drops his easel and the sculptor his chisel, and the engraver his knife, that therefore that taste which which he was enlarging and intensifying for forty or fifty years, is entirely obliterated? These artists, or these friends of art on earth worked in coarse material and with imperfect brain, and with frail hand. Now they have carried their art into larger liberties and into wider circumference. They are at their old business yet, but without the fatigues, without the limitations, without the hindrances of the terrestrial studio. Raphael could improve upon his masterpiece of "Michael the Archangel," now that he has seen him, and could improve upon his masterpiece of the "Holy Trinity" now that he has visited them. Michael Angelo could better present the "Last Judgment" after he had seen its flash and heard the rumbling battering-rams of its thunder.

Exquisite colors here, graceful lines here, powerful chiaroscuro here, but I am persuaded that the grander studies and the brighter galleries are higher up, by the winding marble stairs of the sepulcher, and that Turner and Holman Hunt and Rembrandt, and Titian, and Paul Veronese, if they exercised saving faith in the Christ whom they portrayed upon the canvas are painting yet, but their strength of faculty multiplied ten thousandfold. Their hand has forgotten its cunning, but the spirit has faculties as far superior to four fingers and a thumb as the supernatural is superior to the human. The reason that God took away their eyes and their hand and their brain was that he might give them something more limber, more wieldy, more skillful, more multipliant. Do not, therefore, be melancholy among the tapestries, and the bric-a-brac, and the works of art which your departed friends used to admire. Do not say, "I am sorry they had to leave all these things." Rather say, "I am glad they have gone up to higher artistic opportunity and appreciation." Our friends who found so much joy in the fine arts on earth are now luxuriating in Louvres and Luxembourgs celestial.

I remark again that all our departed Christian friends who in this world were passionately fond of music are still regaling that taste in the world celestial. The Bible says so much about the music in heaven that it cannot all be figurative. Why all this talk about hallelujahs and choirs on the glass and trumpets and harps and oratorios and organs? The Bible over and over again speaks of the songs of heaven. If heaven had no songs of its own a vast number of those on earth would have been taken up by the earthly emigrants. Surely the Christian at death does not lose his memory. Then there must be millions of souls in heaven who know "Coronation" and "Antioch" and "Mount Pisgah" and "Old Hundred." The leader of the eternal orchestra need only once tap his baton and all heaven will be ready for the hallelujah. If heaven should ever get out of music, Thomas Hastings and Lowell Mason and Bradbury would start up a hundred old magnificent chorals. But what with the new song that John mentions, and the various doxologies alluded to, and the importation of sublunar harmonies, a Christian fond of music, dying, will have an abundance of regalement. What though the voice be gone in death, what though the ear be fallen, in dissolution, are you therefore to conclude that the spirit will have no power to make or catch sweet sounds? Cannot the soul sing How often we compliment some exquisite singing by saying, "There was so much soul in her music." In heaven it will be all soul until the body after awhile comes up in the resurrection, and then it can hear music. Do not, therefore, let it be in your household when some member leaves for heaven, as it is in some households, that you close the piano and unstring the harp for two years because the fingers that used to play on them are still. You must remember that they have better instruments of music where they are.

You ask me, "Do they have real harps and real trumpets and real organs?" I do not know. Some wiseacres say positively there are no such things in heaven. I do not know, but I should not be surprised if the God who made all the mountains, and all the hills, and all the forests and all of the mines of the earth, and all the groves of the universe, I should not be surprised if he could, if he had a mind to make a few harps, and trumpets and organs. Grand old Haydn, sick and worn out, was carried for the last time into the music hall; there he heard his oratorio of the "Creation." History says that as the orchestra came to that famous passage, "Let there be light!" the whole audience arose and cheered, and Haydn waved his hand toward heaven and said, "It comes from there!" Overwhelmed with his own music, he was carried out in his chair, and as he came to the door he spread his hand toward the orchestra as in benediction. Haydn was right when he waved his hand toward heaven and said, "It comes from there."

Music was born in heaven, and it will ever have its highest throne in heaven, and I want you to understand that our departed friends who were passionately fond of music here are now at the headquarters of harmony. I think that the grand old church tunes that died when your grandfathers died have gone with them to heaven. When those tunes died they did not stay on earth, and they could not have been banished to perdition, and so I think they must be in the corridors of alabaster and Lebanon cedar.

Again, I remark that those of our departed Christian friends who, in this world had very strong military spirit are now in armies celestial and out in bloodless battle. There are hundreds of people born soldiers. They cannott help it. They belong to regiments in time of peace. They cannot hear a drum or a fife without trying to keep step to the music. They are Christians, and, when they fight, they fight on the right side. Now, when these our Christian friends who had natural and powerful military spirit, entered heaven, they entered the celestial army. The door of heaven scarcely opens but you hear a military demonstration. David cried out, "The chariots of God are twenty thousand." Elisha saw the mountains filled with celestial cavalry. St. John said, "The armies which are in heaven followed him on white horses." Now, when those who had the military spirit on earth sanctified entered glory, I suppose they right away enlisted in some heavenly campaign; they volunteered right away. There must needs be in heaven soldiers with a heavenly spirit. There are grand parade days when the King reviews the troops. There must be armed escort sent out to bring up from earth to heaven those who were more than conquerors.

There must be crusades ever being fitted out for some part of God's dominion—battles, bloodless, groanless, painless. Angels of evil to be fought down and fought out. Other rebellious worlds to be conquered. Worlds to be put to the torch. Worlds to be demolished. Worlds to be sunk. Worlds to be hoisted. Besides that in our own world there are battles for the right and against the wrong where we must have the heavenly military. That is what keeps our Christian reformers so buoyant. So few good men against so many bad men. So few churches against so many grogshops, so many pure printing presses against so many polluted printing presses, and yet we are buoyant and courageous, because while we know that the armies of evil in the world are larger in number than the army of truth, there are celestial cohorts in the air fighting on our side. I have not so much faith in the army on the ground as I have in the army in the air. O, God, open our eyes that we may see them; the military spirits that went up from earth to join the military spirits before the throne—Joshua and Caleb, and Gideon and David, and Samson, and the hundreds of Christian warriors who on earth fought with fleshly arm, and now having gone on high are coming down the hills of heaven ready to fight among the invisibles.

Our departed Christian friends, who had the military spirit in them sanctified, are in the celestial army. Whether belonging to the artillery, or the cavalry, or the infantry, I know not. I only know that they have started out for fleet service, and courageous service, and everlasting service. Perhaps they may come this way to fight on our side, and drive sin, and meanness, and Satan from all our hearts. Yonder they are coming, coming. Did you hear them as they swept by?

But what are our mathematical friends to do in the next world? They found their joy and delight in mathematics. There was more poetry to them in Euclid, than in John Milton. They were as passionately fond of mathematics as Plato, who wrote over his door, "Let no one enter here who is not acquainted with geometry." What are they doing now? They are busy with figures yet. No place in all the universe like heaven for figures. Numbers infinite, distances infinite, calculations infinite. If they want them, arithmetics and algebras, and geometries, and trigonometries for all eternity. What fields of space to be surveyed! What magnitudes to measure! What diameters, what circumferences, what triangles, what quaternions, what epicycloids, what parallelograms, what conic sections! The didactic Dr. Dick said he really thought that the redeemed in heaven spent some of their time with the higher branches of mathematics. So of our transferred and transported metaphysicians. What are they doing now? Studying the human mind, only under better circumstances than they used to study it. They used to study the mind sheathed in the dull human body. Now the spirit unsheathed—now they are studying the sword outside the scabbard. Have you any doubt what Sir William Hamilton is doing in heaven, or what Jonathan Edwards is doing in heaven, or the multitudes on earth who had a passion for metaphysics sanctified by the grace of God? No difficulty in guessing. Metaphysics, glorious metaphysics, everlasting metaphysics.

What are our departed Christian friends who are explorers doing now? Exploring yet, but with lightning locomotion, with vision microscopic and telescopic at the same time. A continent at a glance. world in a second. A planetary system in a day. Christian John Franklin, no more in disabled Erebus pushing toward the north pole; Christian De Long no more trying to free blockaded Jeannette from the ice; Christian Livingstone no more, amid African malarias, trying to make revelation of a dark continent, but all of them in the twinkling of an eye taking in that which was once unapprecachable. Mont Blanc scaled without alpenstock. The coral depths of the ocean explored without a diving-bell. The mountains unbarred and opened without Sir Humphrey Davy's safety lamp.

What are our departed friends who found their chief joy in study doing now? Studying yet, but instead of a few thousand volumes on a few shelves, all the volumes of the universe open before them—geologic, ornithologic, conchologic, botanic, astronomic, philosophic. No more need of Leyden jars, or voltaic piles, or electric batteries, standing as they do face to face with the facts of the universe.

What are the historians doing now? Studying history yet, but not the history of a few centuries of our planet only, but the history of the eternities—whole millenniums before Xenophon, or Herodotus, or Moses, or Adam was born. History of one world. History of all worlds. What are our departed astronomers doing? Studying astronomy yet, but not through the dull lens of earthly observatory, but with one stroke of wing going right out to Jupiter, and Mars, and Mercury, and Saturn, and Orion, and the Pleiades—overtaking and passing the swiftest comet in their flight. Herschel died a Christian. Have you any doubt about what Herschel is doing? Isaac Newton died a Christian. Have you any doubt about what Isaac Newton is doing? Joseph Henry died a Christian. Have you any doubt about what Joseph Henry is doing? They were in discussion, all these astronomers of earth, about what the aurora borealis was, and none of them could guess. They know now; they have been out there to see for themselves.

What are our departed Christian chemists doing? Following out their own science, following out and following out for ever. Since they died they have solved ten thousand questions which puzzled the earthly laboratory. They stand on the other side of the thin wall of electricity, the thin wall that seems to divide the physical from the spiritual world, the thin wall that ever and anon it seems to the almost broken through, broken through from one side by telephonic and telegraphic apparatus, broken through from the other side by strange influences which men in their ignorance call spiritualistic manifestations. All that standeth erect up. They laughing at us as older brothers will laugh at inexperienced brothers, as they see us with contracted brow experimenting, only wishing they could show us the way to open all mysteries.

Agassiz standing amidst his student explorers down in Brazil, coming across some great novelty in the rocks, taking off his hat and saying: "Gentlemen, let us pray; we must have divine illumination; we want wisdom from the Creator to study these rocks. He made them; let us pray." Agassiz going right on with his studies for ever and for ever.

But what are the men of the law, who in this world found their chief joy in the legal profession, what are they doing now? Studying law in an universe where everything is controlled by law from the flight of humming birds to flight of world—law, not dry and hard and drudging, but righteous and magnificent law, before which man and cherub, and seraph, and archangel, and God himself bow. The chain of law long enough to wind around the immensities, and infinity, and eternity. Chain of law. What a place to study law, for there all the links of the chain are in the hand.

What are our departed Christian friends who in this world had their joy in the healing art doing now? Busy at their old business. No sickness in heaven, but plenty of sickness on earth, plenty of wounds in the different parts of God's dominion to be healed and to be medicated. Those glorified souls coming down, not in lazy doctor's gig, but with lightning locomotion. You can not understand why that patient got well after all the skilful doctors had said he must die. Perhaps Abercrombie touched him—Abercrombie, who, after many years of doctoring the bodies and the souls of people in Scotland, went up to God in 1844. Perhaps Abercrombie touched him. I should not wonder if my old friend Dr. John Brown, who died in Edinburgh—John Brown, the author of "Rab and His Friends"—John Brown, who was as humble a Christian as he was a skillful physician and world-renowned author; I should not wonder if he had been back again and again to see some of his old patients. Those who had their joy in healing the sickness and the sorrows of earth gone up they have only to know how the sun and the moon halted, they have only to go over and ask Joshua. If they want to know how the storm gathered on Mount Hor, they have only to go over and ask Lot. If they want to know more about the arrogance of Haman, they have only to go over and ask Mordecai. If they want to know how the Red Sea boiled when it was driven back, they have only to go over and ask Moses. If they want to know the particulars about the Bethlehem advent, they have only to go over and ask the serenading angels who sung that Christmas night in the balconies of crystal. If they want to know more of the particulars of the crucifixion, they have only to go over and ask those who were personal spectators, while the mountains crouched and the heavens got black in the face at the spectacle. If they want to know more about the sufferings of the Covenanters, they have only to go over and ask Andrew Melville. If they want to know more about the old-time revivals, they have only to go over to Jabez Bunting and Wesley and Livingston, and Fletcher, and Nettleton, and Finney.

Oh, what a place to visit in! If eternity were one minute shorter, it would not be long enough for such speciality. Those of our friends who in this world were passionately fond of flowers, turned into paradise. Think of our friends who were very fond of raising superb fruit turned into the orchard where each tree has twelve kinds of fruit at once, and bearing the fruit all the year round. What are the departed Christian friends doing in heaven, those who on earth found their chief joy in the Gospel ministry? They are visiting their old congregations. Most of those old ministers have got their people around them already. When I get to heaven—and the decree of God I am destined to go to that place—I will come and see you all. Yes, I will to all the people to whom I have administered in the Gospel, and to the millions of souls to whom, through the kindness of the printing press, I am permitted to preach every week in this land and in the uttermost parts of the earth, I will visit them all. I give them fair notice. Our departed friends of the ministry are now engaged in that delectable entertainment and undertaking.

But what are our departed Christian friends who in all departments of usefulness were busy, finding their chief joy in doing good—what are they doing now? Going right on with the work. John Howard visited dungeons; the dead women of Northern and Southern battlefields still abroad looking for the wounded; George Peabody still watching for the poor; Thomas Clarkson still looking after enslaved—all of those who did good on earth busier since death than before. The tombstone not the terminus but the starting-post. What are our departed Christian friends who found their chief joy in studying God, doing how? Studying God yet, so much to see and learn now, for unblanched they are face to face. Now they can handle the omnipotent thunderbolts just as a child handles the sword of a father come back from victorious battle.

They have no sin, no fear, consequently. Studying Christ, not through a revelation save the revelation of the scars—that deep lettering which brings it all up quick enough. Studying the Christ of the Bethlehem caravansary; the Christ of the awful massacre with its hemorrhage of head, and hand, and foot, and side; the Christ of the shattered mausoleum; Christ the Sacrifice, the Star, the Son, the Man, the God, the God-man, the man-God. But hark! the bell of the cathedral rings—the cathedral bell of heaven. What is the matter now? There is going to be a great meeting in the temple. Worshipers all coming through the aisles. Make room for the Conqueror. Christ standing in the temple. All heaven gathering around him. Those who loved the beautiful, come to look at the Rose of Sharon. Those who loved music, come to listen to his voice. Those who were mathematicians, come to count the years of his reign. Those who were explorers, come to discover the height and the depth and the length and breadth of his love. Those who had the military spirit on earth sanctified, and the military spirit in heaven, come to look at the Captain of their salvation. The astronomers come to look at the Morning Star. The men of the law come to look at him who is the judge of quick and dead. The men who healed the sick come to look at him who was wounded for our transgressions. All different and different forever in many respects, yet all alike in admiration for Christ, in worship for Christ, and all alike in joining in the doxology, "Unto him who washed us from our sins in his own blood, and made us kings and priests unto God; to him be glory in the church throughout all ages, world without end." Amen.

To show you that your departed friends are more alive than they ever were, to make you homesick for heaven, to give you an enlarged view of the glories to be revealed, I have preached this sermon.

A DINNER PLASTRON.

The Large Fronts Are Worn in Velvet, Satin and Other Rich Materials.

The large front plastrons are making their appearance again in great variety. At a Sunday evening dinner table of a large hotel in Washington many of the ladies wore plastrons of cloth of gold

IN GREEN AND JET.

beset with false gems, making a brilliant showing.

One woman wore a plastron of black velvet with a great bow of pale green ribbon tied at the neck. There were long loops and ends all laid placidly upon the plastron. The ribbon was dotted with fluer de lys embroidered in jet.

There was a very deep turn-over collar of striped black satin ribbon. The back was the same as the front without the ribbon. Both front and back fell full and loose being fastened by a fancy stick pin in the middle of the waist.

Aching Joints

Announce the presence of rheumatism which causes untold suffering. Rheumatism is due to lactic acid in the blood. It cannot be cured by liniments or other outward applications. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, removes the cause of rheumatism and permanently cures this disease. This is the testimony of thousands of people who once suffered the pains of rheumatism but who have actually been cured by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. Its great power to act upon the blood and remove every impurity is the secret of the wonderful cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

CASE OF CONSCIENCE.

A Yearly Occurrence for the Past Twenty Years.

Regularly, in November of every year, there comes to the comptroller of New York city a note containing these words: "Dear Sir: Enclosed please find $50 bank note to pay taxes on a very small estate." The letters "A. B. C." in combinations that vary from year to year are then attached, and the $50 bank note is always found. Year after year a receipt is made out for the money, is endorsed "Conscience," and filed away, and no official has ever discovered whence the money came. The performance has gone on now for more than 20 years, the writing is very fine and old-fashioned, and it has been shrewdly guessed that whether the money is due to the non-taxation, or the swearing off, of taxable property, the conscience-stricken sender, whose sufferings have continued so long, is some old lady whose mind, with this single exception, is not upon worldly affairs. For the tax rate which 21 years ago was 2.94 has since been as low as 1.82, and yet the amount enclosed has never varied, so that if it was right at first it has ever since been more than was necessary. When I get to heaven—and the decree of God I am destined to go to that place—I will come and see you all. Yes, I will to all the people to whom I have administered in the Gospel, and to the millions of souls to whom, through the kindness of the printing press, I am permitted to preach every week in this land and in the uttermost parts of the earth, I will visit them all. I give them fair notice. Our departed friends of the ministry are now engaged in that delectable entertainment and undertaking.

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Only One Standard

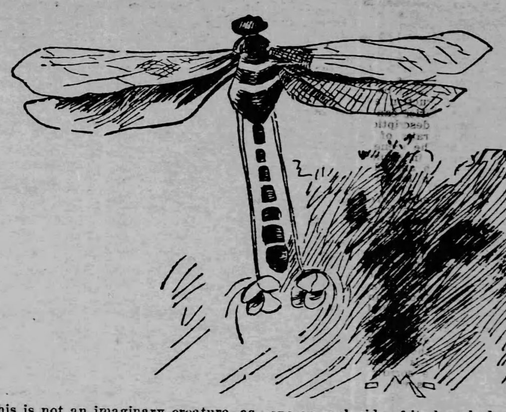
You and we may differ as to money standards and out of our very differences good may come. But we won't differ as to the merits of one standard emulsion of cod-liver oil.

SCOTT'S EMULSION has won and held its way for nearly 25 years in the world of medicine until to-day it is almost as much the standard in all cases of lung trouble, and every condition of wasting whether in child or adult as quinine is in malarial fevers.

Differ on the money question if you will, but when it comes to a question of health, perhaps of life and death, get the standard.

Your druggist sells Scott's Emulsion.
Two sizes, 50 cts. and $1.00
SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

A FLY PROPELLED BY TWIN SCREWS.



This is not an imaginary creature, as some might suppose. It is, however, one of the most extraordinary creatures in the world and the only one of its kind. Its owner, a former governor of Portland prison, was a keen collector of all sorts of beetles and winged insects. Once during his wanderings in Brazil he chanced upon what seemed to him a dragon fly of somewhat unusual shape. Catching it in his net, he found to his astonishment that in addition to its wings it had twin archimedean screws, one on each side of its long body, which revolved in the same manner as a ship's screw.

On his return to England he was offered $1,500 for it by the authorities of the British Museum. Being a man of wealth he declined the offer and made it the centre ornament of a beautiful collection of tropical insects. Unfortunately, in capturing it two of the blades were broken off one of the screws; otherwise it was in perfect preservation.

SPARROW WHICH GOT TIPSY.

Drank Too Much Champagne and Had to Be Cared for by His Mates.

I chanced to see a queer little episode yesterday in which a party of English sparrows were the actors, says the writer of a New Orleans Letter to Philadelphia Times. At the back door of a little saloon down on Royal street a bottle of champagne had been broken, the sparkling stuff running out and collecting in puddles on the broken stone pavement. Just about the time I chanced along a ubiquitous young sparrow, perhaps not exactly on pleasure bent, hopped down from the sidewalk and stuck his investigating beak into one of these wine puddles. Now deponent does not say that sparrows in general are tipplers, and this young fellow was, no doubt, taking his first drink, for the stuff flew to his head instantly and pretty soon he was done up completely. For some time for a few moments flopping and topping about on the sidewalk wondering what would happen next, when down fitted two other little sparrows, who evidently came to see what was up. They lost no time in taking in the situation, either, for between chattering and chirping at their tipsy friend and smelling the champagne puddle, they appeared to comprehend matters. The two held a caucus for a few minutes after their investigations ceased, and then in a mighty fluttering of wings and pecking of beaks they drove the tipsy bird to the banquette and dumped him over in the gutter. At first I thought they would murder the poor, helpless little fellow, but it soon became evident that they were taking the only means in their power to resuscitate him, for presently he came up again dripping, it is true, and somewhat the worse for wear, but on the whole pretty steady on his legs.

Thinking everything was over, I went on down to the French market, attended to my business and came back, having been about two hours gone, and was surprised to see the three little sparrows standing on the pavement just where I had left them. Wondering what they could be up to, I waited and was presently rewarded by seeing another sparrow fly down and join the others. Then came a mighty chattering and pecking at the bird that had been drunk, and smelling at the wine puddle, and bird No. 4 flew away. By and by still another one came, the same process being repeated for him, and by this time I was convinced that the first three had taken up their station by the dangerous liquor to warn others against falling into temptation.

If all the tipplers were as human as this one there would be a deal less drunkenness and sorrow in the world.

X-RAY SHIRT WAISTS.

A Costume Which Appears to Be Peculiar to St. Louis.

Of all the devices yet invented by woman for the ensnaring and destruction of a man's soul, the X ray shirt waist is the most diabolically efficacious. I call them X ray shirt waists because they have somewhat the effect of the Roentgen photographs, in that they diclose most bounteously the feminine framework through a warp and woof transparent. They are the most solicitous things. The sleeves are but substantial lures for the eye to the ivory arm. Through these sleeves one can note even a vaccination mark so plainly as to feel a very distinct hatred for the leaving it there as sign manual of scientific privilege. You can note the dimples and the little elevations that by their particular deviations emphasize the general roundness of the arm. Fastened closely around the wrist with a little band, the expansion of the ballooning sleeve is imparted to the wrist and makes the effect of its plumpness more insistent.—St. Louis Mirror.

Those Bloomers.

Put away the little bloomers
That our darling used to wear,
For she never more will need them—
She has got a smaller pair.
—New York Journal.

Pleasant for the Pastor.

Mother—"What is the matter, my dear? Why are you crying?"

Harry (between sobs)—"I left my toffy on that chair and the minister's a-sittin' on it."—Answers.

Splendor in Opera Wraps.

Fur, velvet and brocade are exquisitely combined in the most elegant imported loose coats and opera mantles. The lining of satin.

Unselfish.

She—Why is it, dear, that when you get seats at the theatre you always get them so far back?

"On account of your hat. I like other people to see the play."—Life.

DEVIL'S TEA TABLE.

One of the Natural Wonders of Ohio With Its History.

One of the most popular trips to residents of Central Ohio and, in fact, from other points in the state, is by boat from Zanesville to Cincinnati or Pittsburg, which includes the picturesque scenery of the beautiful Muskingum. But, of all the picturesque points on the route, the Devil's Tea Table excels all in grandeur, points of interest and weird stories coupled with it.

The table is in plain view from both sides the river and the railroad. It consists of an immense table of sandstone, estimated to weigh over 500 tons, supported by a slender base of shelly stone, and maintains its position wholly by its equilibrium; the top being so evenly balanced that if a small piece were taken or broken from one side the great formation would topple into the river hundreds of feet below. The table is diamond-shape and is about 40 feet long, 55 feet high, 30 feet wide, 10 feet thick and 85 feet in circumference. The long diameter is from north to south, and when the massive stone is observed from any other side, it seems liable to fall. If a central position is taken on the top of the rock, the whole rock will vibrate.

The name of Devil's Tea Table has been applied to the rock since 1800, according to the recollection of the old residents of the vicinity. It has never been known who applied this name to the table, but there have always been coupled with weird stories of ill luck and as early as 1810 Tim Gates and a number of fellow boatmen announced that they intended to push the rock into the river, but their efforts were futile.

Young ladies in the vicinity accept a general belief that if a young lady will visit the table with her lover and secure a fragment of the rock, she will marry the man who accompanied her to the table, but if she loses the fragment, she will lose her lover.

CURIOUS OCCUPATIONS.

It is estimated that the silk industry of China employs from 40,000,000 to 50,000,000 persons.

New Scotland Yard is the largest police office in the world, accommodating 3,000 officers.

The quantity of bananas shipped from the West Indies to the United States amounts annually to between 13,000,000 and 14,000,000 bunches, valued at over $20,000,000.

In proportion to its population the united kingdom has a greater number of women workers than any other country and among them no fewer than 616,000 are set down as dressmakers.

The allowance of lawyers to this country is rather more liberal than the allowance of preachers. There are 89,442 men and 208 women engaged in practicing law and supposing each to have an average of ten suits on hand the litigation going on at one time in the United States courts would foot up 896,300 cases.

Pearl shells need to grow three or four years, but as the possible pearl does not depend on the age or size of the shell the small ones are as ruthlessly opened as though no law on the subject existed. Pearl fishers are out for money and have no sentiment.

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SUBSTITUTION

the FRAUD of the day.

See you get Carter's.

Ask for Carter's.

Insist and demand

Carter's Little Liver Pills

The only perfect

Liver Pill.

Take no other,

Even if

Solicited to do so.

Beware of imitations

of Same Color Wrapper.

RED.

The Sunday School.

The Birth of Christ.

GOLDEN TEXT.—And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.—Luke 2:10.

(Matt. 2:1-12. Memory verses: 10, 11.)

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the East to Jerusalem.

2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the East, and are come to worship him.

3. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6. And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the East, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshiped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Illustrative Applications.

Now when Jesus was born (v. 1). Keep steady hold of the great fact of the Incarnation. This Jesus who was born was also the Word who was in the beginning, who was with God, who was God. And he was born. He took upon himself our nature. He began with it at the earliest turn and phase. How close this great fact of the Incarnation brings God to us, what proof of his abyssmal love, what certainty of his accessibility! For verily not of angels doth he take hold, but he taketh hold of the seed of Abraham. Wherefore it behooved him in all things to be made like unto his brethren. Surely we should be ready to set our hand to any lowliest duty for the sake of one who for our sakes made himself so lowly. And any one who lovingly sets himself to lowliest duty for the sake of him who, though he was God, became a babe for our redemption, by such motive ennobles and transfigures the dustiest task. For it is never so much the deed itself which flows from our finger-tips as it is the motive starting the deed which glorifies it or debases it.

Wise men from the east came to Jerusalem. We saw his star in the east, and are come (vs. 2, 3). Here is an eminent instance of the way of getting on in religion. At first the magi had but the star. But instead of simply looking at it, and wondering at it, they followed it; and, after long journey, the star brought them to full vision of him they sought. They used the light they had, and the use of it brought them into fuller light. "Lead, kindly Light." And it will lead if we will follow. But the main matter is the actual following the light and using it. What surprising Christians we should be if we simply lived up to the light we already have, and kept on doing it! For the use of light surely leads into larger light. For the path of the righteous is as the shining light—or, as the margin has it, the light of the dawn—that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

He was troubled (v. 3). The thought of Christ must trouble an evil heart. Herod could sleep, and does, as he does the thought of the coming of Christ into our heart and life trouble us or charm us?

And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet (v. 5). How God makes even the wrath of man to praise him! "The very body—the sanhedrin—which subsequently crucified Jesus as an impostor officially testifies that his birth in Bethlehem fulfils the prophecy uttered seven hundred years before respecting the Messiah." So their crucifying rage stultified itself and flew flat into the face of their own declaration. Sin always involves one in sad self-contradictions. Their true and acknowledged interpretation of the prophet have stultified their real insincerity in the crucifixion of Jesus before the ages. Let me not, as the sanhedrin did, clash with a plain teaching of the word of God. That brings the worst of ruin in the end.

And opening their treasures they offered unto him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh (v. 11). A colored brother was telling of his way of giving to the Lord. "Yes, sir," he said. "I gibes de truck off o' one acre ebery year de Lawd." "What acre is dat?" the friend asked. "Wal, dat is a different question. Truf is, de acre changes most ebbery season." "How's dat?" "Why, in wet seasons I gibes de Lawd de low land, and in de dry seasons I gibes him de top acre of de whole plantation." "In that case the Lord's acre is the worst in the whole farm; for in wet seasons it would be quite flooded and in dry seasons parched." "Yes so. You don't allow I'se going to rob my family of de best acre I'se got—did ye?" Is not that too much the fashion of our own offering to the Lord—shreds of time, bits of talent, driblets of money, fringes of things? Let these magi teach us better. They gave their best. It is not our poorest, but our best, we should give the Lord.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D., in S. S. Times.

—COUGHS AND COLDS. Those who are suffering from Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, etc., should try Brown's Bronchial Troches. Sold only in boxes.

VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS.

It is estimated that the silk industry of China employs from 40,000,000 to 50,000,000 persons.

New Scotland Yard is the largest police office in the world, accommodating 3,000 officers.

The quantity of bananas shipped from the West Indies to the United States amounts annually to between 13,000,000 and 14,000,000 bunches, valued at over $20,000,000.

In proportion to its population the united kingdom has a greater number of women workers than any other country and among them no fewer than 616,000 are set down as dressmakers.

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THE M'KINLEYS.

LARES AND PENATES OF AN EARLY AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD.

Old Church Where the Great-Great-Great-Grandmother of the President-Elect Worshiped.

Many years ago, during the reign of King George I, a certain Irish gentleman, tiring of the unjust rates for land rents exacted in Ulster county, bade good-bye to king and country, and sailed to the beckoning land of freedom on the other side of the great ocean.

Safely outriding Neptune's storms, after many weeks he landed in America, and traversing leagues of land, finally settled in Lancaster county, Pa., in the beautiful Donegal valley. Here, in 1740, he received a patent for land aggregating 334 acres.

In this picturesque valley, through which roll the placid waters of the Susquehanna, James Stevenson built the long, low house in which the ancestor of a President was born. To-day only a few stones mark the outline of the foundation of the original structure. It was torn down in 1806, and replaced by a spacious brick house with wings and porches, which remained in the family until about twenty years ago, when it passed into possession of Gen. Simon Cameron. Here Gen. Cameron breathed his last, and here his son, Senator Don Cameron, spends a portion of his summers.

In the original farm house occupied by James Stevenson there resided himself, his wife, two sons and four daughters. Of these the eldest son, Nathaniel, who died a bachelor, inherited the property, and at his death it went to the eldest daughter, Anne, who married John Watson. The second eldest daughter, Hannah, the great-great-grandmother of Major McKinley, married John Gray, who lived near the Susquehanna, at Bainbridge, and afterward in Westm

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1896.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 120,000

TO SUBSCRIBERS WHOSE TIME EXPIRES IN DECEMBER.

We have mailed a proposition by postal card to all subscribers whose time expires in December, making a special rate for renewal for the Weekly Blade for one year at a price that is very remarkable, and should have the attention of every one to whom it is addressed.

The postal card should by this time have reached every person whose time expires in December, and it will create a sensation.

We ask all those who should be entitled to one of the cards, but who has not received it; to write us immediately and we will send a duplicate.

The terms proposed in this card will surprise you.

MAKE LABOR A STOCKHOLDER.

For three years the Illinois Central railway has been introducing the system of making its employes stockholders of the road. The plan has been slowly taking hold during that time, and the results so far have been satisfactory to both parties. The company stands ready to make an arrangement with any employe whereby he can buy shares of the railway's stock, either for cash or on the installment plan. Under the latter, he may make deposits of $5 or more at a time until he has paid for the stock; and while the money is accumulating, he is allowed 4 per cent interest on his deposit.

At this time, 700 employes are paying in installments for their stock, while 138 others have paid for and now own 987 shares. While the plan is still an experiment, its workings so far go to show that it is probably a success. The men who thus are investing their savings in stock no longer look upon the company as their natural enemy—a deplorable attitude which is too often that of employes toward employers. Feeling that they hold an interest in the road itself, and that its prosperity means bigger dividends to them, they are naturally more careful and painstaking, and use all efforts in their power to enlarge its business. Should a strike occur, they are interested in preserving the road's property from wanton damage. Having votes at the annual meetings, they are brought closer to the management of the road, and in a position to know its actual condition. They view all questions, not only from the standpoint of employes, but from that of the management of the road itself. This closer association of interests will remove the groundless prejudices and suspicions which are such a fruitful cause of labor difficulties. The plan will be a success unless a series of years of bad business for the road should intervene.

"ELECTORAL COUNT" ACT.

The "electoral count" act was passed in 1887, and it orders that the electors shall meet in their respective states on the second Monday in January; therefore the electors chosen by the people on November 3 will meet on January 11 to ballot for President and Vice President of the United States.

The result of that ballot is transmitted to the President of the Senate of the United States, to be "opened" by him in the presence of both houses of Congress, when they meet in joint session on the second Wednesday in February to count the ballots.

The returns from the states are opened in their alphabetical order—Alabama heading the list. If there are any contests—if, for any reason, the returns from any state is disputed—it is decided then and there, before proceeding further with the count; and all such contests are settled by concurrent votes of the Senate and House, acting separately.

The act of 1887 was drafted to cover all such disputed returns as those which created the memorable Hayes-Tilden contest over the election of 1876. Its provisions make the procedure of the joint session of the two houses of Congress simple and clear in all respects, and, so far as experience has shown, cover all possible puzzling contingencies. Neither house can usurp privileges, and neither can force its purpose on the other. The most that either Senate or House can do is to prevent the counting of the votes of electors whose choice by the people is subject to controversy; and even in that case one house is unable to reject the certificates unless it induces the other to concur in that action.

THE GERAT SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

The announcement that the great Russian railway from St. Petersburg to the Pacific, across Siberia, is now open as far east as the town of Kolivan, about 1,800 miles from St. Petersburg, awakens new interest in this important enterprise. Its effects will go far beyond the transportation of passengers and freight through the dominions of the Czar.

Our own wheat farmers are deeply interested, because it will open up a vast area as well suited to wheat-growing as our own Northwest; and its completion means that Siberia will be added to the countries competing in the markets of Western Europe to find a market for their grain. There are plenty of American farmers who can recall the time when only the United States and Southern Russia competed for that market. They have seen Argentine, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia and India enter the lists, and noted the fall in price, because of the increased supply. The addition of Siberia means a still sharper competition within a few years.

Besides this, the mineral resources of this vast region now opening up are immense, and millions of acres of fine timber will be available for the world's supply. Gold fields may be developed to an unsuspected extent, and various other minerals will, beyond question, add very largely to the world's store of valuable products. A glance at the map suggests the vast possibilities of the opening of this tract to civilization. It is bigger than all Europe, and much of the region through which the new railway passes is fertile soil.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Mr. Cleveland requires some 16,000 words to convey to Congress and the country the information and recommendations contained in the reports of the cabinet officials, and to make his own suggestions and recommendations as to future legislation. The message nowhere rises above the commonplace, nor does it contain any suggestion which is a surprise to any citizen of the Republic.

His views on the Cuban question contain nothing practically new. He rejects any proposition for the recognition of the belligerency of the Cubans, or for recognizing their independence, or for the purchase of the island, or for armed intervention by the United States to stop the useless waste of life and wholesale destruction of all the material resources of the country.

All of the rumors of a new and definite course of action by the United States in Cuban matters, which have been started at numerous times during the past summer, resolve themselves into the statement by the President that this government proffered to Spain its services in this way: That if Spain would offer the Cubans a satisfactory measure of home rule, and the latter accept it upon the guarantee of its execution, "the United States would endeavor to find a way, not objectionable to Spain, of furnishing such guarantee."

Spain has made no reply, though the proposition was made several months ago; and it does not appear, from anything the President says, that the Cubans were consulted, or that they would agree to anything of the sort. However excellent this or any other plan of pacific intervention might be, it can come to nothing without the consent, both of Spain and Cuba; and there seems little probability of either agreeing thereto.

Mr. Cleveland is in accord with public sentiment in the United States when he declares this government should object to any other nation interfering in Cuban affairs, or acquiring the island. His closing paragraph on the matter suggests that when it becomes clear that the struggle on the part of Spain is hopeless, the United States should interfere. He outlines no plan for such interference, leaving that to be determined by the conditions then existing; and, until that time comes, he thinks we should go on as we have been, preserving absolute neutrality.

The President differs from the mass of the American people in assuming that the time for such interference has not arrived. The tenor of recent news from Cuba is that the war has degenerated into mere slaughter and ravage. How much longer does Mr. Cleveland think it necessary to wait?

On the tariff question, the President adheres to the position he took in his message last year. He asserts that the Wilson bill will, "in the near future," bring in enough revenue. How much time does he want? It has been a dire failure as a revenue producer ever since its enactment, and this year the deficit is growing instead of decreasing. He asserts that it has increased our foreign trade, and furnished a wider market for our products and manufactures. It has increased imports, to the detriment of home manufactures, and the consequent distress of our own working people. Our export trade has increased, but the reasons for this are to be found elsewhere than in tariff legislation; and every farmer in the country knows that the increase in our agricultural exports would have happened under the McKinley law, had it remained on the statute-books.

On the currency question, Mr. Cleveland's recommendations are mere repetitions. He favors the retirement of tht greenbacks, for the same reasons and by the same methods recommended in his message of 1895. He would require the national banks to redeem their notes, and allow them to issue notes up to the par value of the bonds deposited, reducing the tax on circulation to ¼ of 1 per cent. None of this is new, though his reasoning is sound and clear.

The closing portion of his message discusses the evils of trusts, and the most available method for their destruction. He thinks the present law inadequate, because of the lack of full authority by the national government. Under the restrictions of power imposed by the constitution, the national government has not adequate authority over trusts and similar combinations unless they include in their objects transportation between different states, or between the United States and foreign countries. The real power to deal with trusts lies in the hands of the states; and Mr. Cleveland intimates that the state legislatures should deal effectively with them. All of this is true. The weak spots in all attempts by Congress to deal with this matter is that the courts must sustain the rights of the states under the constitution, and deny to Congress the full powers necessary if the trusts are to be exterminated.

Mr. Cleveland's feeling crops out, at numerous points in the message, that he is the Whole Thing, and that the nation should peruse his ponderous periods with a thrilling sense of sorrow that this is his farewell message to the Congress and the people. It has been always one of his weaknesses to take himself entirely too seriously, and to imagine that his views and opinions are held by the masses pretty much as were the utterances of the oracles of old. Perhaps he is too old to change; but this persistent attitude of prophetic wisdom, which long ago earned for him the soubriquet of the Stuffed Prophet, has always been the theme of popular derision, and never more so than at the present time.

The unofficial roll of the clerk of the House of Representatives shows that, in the Fifty-fifth Congress the House will consist of Republicans 204, Democrats, 124, Populists 12, fusionists 13, silverites 3, and one vacancy. The Republicans will have about fifty majority over all; this is large enough to be a protection against free silver nonsense but not so large as to be unmanageable.

THE NEXT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Just at this time the newspapers of the country are prodigal of advice to President-elect McKinley on every possible topic connected with his appointments to office, and with the policy of the incoming administration. The Blade holds too high an opinion of the statesmanship of Mr. McKinley to suppose that he needs guidance at its hands. We do not propose to advise him what he should do; but we will venture a suggestion for his consideration.

It is that in selecting his Attorney General, he should choose a man who possesses a vetebral column, and who will use his energies to put down all trusts and other illegal combinations to restrict trade and compel people to pay more than they should for articles so controlled.

The Republican party has declared its opposition to all trusts and similar combinations. The masses of the people are bitterly opposed to them. It is time that an earnest effort should be made to destroy them all.

If the present law on the subject is not strong enough, when enforced, to accomplish this end, then the duty devolves upon Congress of so amending and improving it that it may be effective. If Congress fails in this, the people will remedy the matter by electing men who do not belong to the invertebrate order.

The Chicago Tribune, discussing the proposed sandstone trust, is stirred to demand of the new administration and new Congress some decisive action against this throttling of competition by combination. It says:

No doubt the representatives of the trusts will turn up at Washington next year and ask that no unfriendly legislation be enacted. They may plead that they contributed their cash towards securing a sound money victory.

Possibly they did, but if so they gave their money in order to head off a change of the money standard which would have deprived them of half their credits and inflicted on them a loss of millions. That was the danger against which they were endeavoring to protect themselves. All they may have contributed was not 1 per cent of what they would have lost had Bryan been elected.

These men cannot demand immunity for their unlawful practices because they gave money for a legitimate purpose. Their pleadings must not be heeded, and the anti-trust law must be made more severe, so that they will not be so ready to break it.

That law must be amended so as to give to every person who has been compelled to pay excessive prices to a trust the right to recover the difference between the competitive and the monopoly price of the commodity he has purchased. Then those other defects in the law which have become apparent must be remedied.

The number and the boldness of these trusts are increasing. Every week some new article is "trusted," and consumers are called on to pay exorbitant prices for it, or go without it. The maleficent power of the trusts must be broken. The campaign against them must begin next year.

CIVILIZING THE APACHES.

The War Department has tried its hand at civilizing a number from the wildest and most savage tribe of American Indians—the Apaches. Their home was in the mountain fastnesses of Arizona, and they were for years a continual source of trouble. In 1886 the government troops succeeded in capturing about 500 of them, who were taken to the reservation at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the experiment of transforming these wild savages of the mountains into peaceful tillers of the soil was begun.

The annual report of Secretary of War Lamont tells of the success of this eight years' experiment. The 3,600 acres of the reservation was quite unpromising when they were placed there, but, under the direction of whites, they have made it productive. These Apaches are now industrious and thrifty farmers. During the past season they harvested 3,000 bushels of corn, 2,500 bushels of potatoes, 300 tons of corn fodder, 400 tons of hay and 40,000 melons, besides grazing more than 1,000 head of cattle. The surplus each year is sold, to buy clothing, farm implements, etc.; and to all appearance they are completely won to the ways of civilization.

Secretary Lamont puts the total cost of this work at $32,000—much less than the expense of any of the military expeditions previously sent against them. Two-thirds of this was for buildings, implements, seed, and cattle for the ranges. The land is the property of the government, and they hold it only at the pleasure of the authorities. The secretary thinks the time has come when they should be given a permenanet title to the lands their labor has redeemed; and, on his statement of the facts, all thinking people will agree with him. And the same methods should be employed with other tribes, to turn them into industrious farmers instead of lazy pensioners on the government's bounty.

A RENAISSANCE IN WRITING.

The abominable "systems" of penmanship favored by those who conducted our schools for the past thirty odd years are responsible for the most obscure, yet sprawling, chirography the English-using world has ever seen. Previous to that, the old-fashioned "round hand" was taught; and the handwriting of the men who went to school then is vastly superior to that of the present day. We do not refer to the penmanship of "experts" in the villainous so-called "systems" of to-day, but to that of the average man. It is simply execrable. It is a shining success as hieroglyphics, and about as hard to read.

Three or four years ago some benefactor of his race began to teach vertical penmanship. Many schools are adopting it, and it is a vast improvement. In the first place, the learner is not compelled to take an unnatural position of hand and body. Second, the writing is vertical, not slanting; hence it prevents a child from getting into the habit of writing sprawlingly. Third, it can be read easily, even when poorly written—and this is a boon which every printer, and editor, and everybody else who has to deal with other people's written communications, will appreciate with fervor.

The old-fashioned "round hand" was beautifully clear and plain. It had but one defect—it was too slow. The letters were drawn, rather than written. The Spencerian aimed to overcome this by making the letters more angular and flowing; and the multitudinous variations on the theme it introduced have cursed the schools of the land since the '50s, and worked a sad deterioration in the national handwriting. The new vertical style is as plain as round hand, and much easier to write, as well as faster. Its introduction is very slow, because it has to overcome the intense conservatism of the school teachers and writing masters. It is making good headway, though, and in the course of a generation will work a vast improvement in American penmanship.

The state department has been notified that Minister Andrade, of Venezuela who went to Caracas to lay the arbitration treaty before President Crespo, will return to Washington at once. His early return, without awaiting the action of the Venezuelan Congress, causes surprise, but no explanation of it is offered. Suppose Venezuela refuses to agree, what will be done? The position of the United States would then become ridiculous.

WE NEED PROTECTION.

The New York World is laboring hard to make it appear that there is no need of any more protection than the Wilson law affords. It admits that more revenue is needed, but it don't want it raised by the imposition of protective duties. It says:

The first and most pressing need of the country is more revenue for the Treasury. With a heavy deficit running, the credit of the government is impaired and every business interest is threatened.

There is no industry suffering legitimately for more protection. Business is reviving under the tariff as it is, which is higher than any previous peace tariff in our history with the single exception of McKinley's.

The first paragraph of the above extract is correct in all particulars. The second is fallacious. Business is reviving and everybody admits it. But there is a sharp limit to the revival. Let us take a backward glance.

The threat of a low tariff, coupled with the Democratic ascendency in both branches of Congress and in the Executive department, thus giving that party full power to carry out its threat, caused every merchant and every manufacturer to take in sail, and make ready for the coming tempest. The panic of 1893 was the result. Hard times followed; the purchasing power of the people was cut down; the imports of foreign goods increased, the market for our goods decreased.

Of course the business of the country always accommodates itself, sooner or later, to a change in conditions. A man loses his leg by accident, but he learns to accommodate himself to the new condition by the aid of crutches, and goes about his daily business, though with more or less difficulty. So it was with our industries. Then came the free silver campaign, and everything stood still until the result of the election showed that it was safe to go ahead.

Since that, business has been reviving. Clothing has worn out, and the other necessaries of life been used up. People are buying once more. We are having a decided improvement, but it will not, at its best, come up to the measure of genuine prosperity which we enjoyed in 1891 and 1892.

Why?

Because the Wilson tariff cripples many industries. It is cheaper to bring in many classes of goods from abroad than to make them here. Consequently mills are not running to their full capacity, men are idle because the things they were formerly employed to make are now made by foreign workingmen. We can not have full prosperity until this evil is remedied; and protection is the only remedy.

PUSH THE ELKINS BILL!

Our Washington specials to-day refer to the fact that an effort will be made to push the Elkins bill through during the present session of Congress. This bill was introduced by Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, last winter, and is now on the Senate calendar. Its chief object is the direct encouragement of the building of merchant vessels by American owners in American shipyards; and it aims to accomplish this by the imposition of a "discriminating duty" of 10 per cent on all goods imported in foreign vessels. That is to say, everything imported in foreign bottoms will pay 10 per cent more duty than the regular tariff rates; and articles on the free list will also pay 10 per cent of their value.

The effect of this discriminating duty would be that all imports would be in American vessels; and this would mean the rapid construction of a very large number of ocean freighters, giving our shipyards a tremendous boom, furnishing work therein to thousands of iron and steel workers. In addition, it would, for three or four years—that is, until our merchant fleet were increased to the full capacity of our foreign trade—produce a revenue of fifty to sixty million dollars annually, and provide a measure of protection about equal to a general 10 per cent advance in the tariff.

Aside from the benefit to the revenue which would thus accrue, this bill would not only restore to the United States the carrying trade on the high seas we once enjoyed, but enable us to contest with Great Britain for the supremacy in the world's commerce. Over a hundred million dollars a year are paid to foreign shipowners for carrying American freights. This sum would come into the pockets of Americans every year. The new vessels would give employment to thousands of American sailors; and American shipbuilding, once put upon its feet, by the adoption of the policy outlined in the Elkins bill, would maintain itself, as would our merchant marine.

The free trade theory is that we should admit foreign built ships to American registry—a policy which they dignify by the title of "free shipping." In other words, they wish us to buy our ships ready-built abroad, instead of building them at home. Ships can be built on the Clyde for 20 per cent less than we can build them here, at the American rate of wages. But this would not solve the difficulty. It costs more to run American vessels than it does British ones, because American sailors can not and will not live as British sailors do. They demand fair wages and good food. British sailors get starveling pay and their food is of the poorest. Samuel Plimsoll once gave testimony before the London labor commission showing that condemned naval stores were purchased for English sailors in English freighters. American sailors will not stand that kind of fare, and they should not.

We trust the rumor is correct that an effort will be made to push this bill. It would help us in a number of ways, and it would be a benefit to American labor, from the miners in coal and iron mines, up through every step of converting the ore into a modern steel freight steamer.

OZONE BY WHOLESALE.

Nikola Tesla, the famed electrician, is very practical in his ideas concerning the coming utilization of electric energy in ways hitherto undreamed of. He suggests that ozone can be produced by wholesale through the use of electrical oscillators, and be made to serve both as a fertilizer and a ventilating force.

In its latter use, it would solve many very preplexing problems. The ozonization of the air in rooms occupied by people would destroy all noxious emanations. Think of a crowded theatre, or church, with the air thus purified at stated intervals! Or a sleeping car, or a sleeping room! And more important still, a schoolroom, thronged with children of all sorts and conditions, and realize the blessing it would be, removing all danger of disease and infection?

The ozonization of soils would practically regenerate their fertility, especially on those originally rich, but now exhausted. Here the question of cost would be the deciding factor; but in the other case—that of air-purifying—this would be but small. The plan is practical; all it needs is for the proper methods of applying it to be devised.

The Cuban war is costing Spain $12,000,000 a month, and has already piled up a debt of $500,000,000. It is a question of how much longer Spain can keep her head above the waters of bankruptcy.

THE DUTY OF CONGRESS.

Congress convenes with an overshadowing problem before it to solve. It is the question of sufficient revenue. It is a burning shame that this nation should go on piling up a deficiency in time of peace, because of the fatuousness of the last Democratic Congress in enacting the Wilson tariff law. That inefficient measure goes steadily on creating a deficiency. Here is the summary of its work in this direction:

Deficiency, 1894	$69,803,260
Deficiency, 1895	42,805,223
Deficiency, 1896	25,203,245
Deficiency, 1897 to date	41,264,512
Total	$179,076,240

As a matter of fact, the bond issues have been used to meet this deficiency—not directly, but indirectly. Greenbacks were paid into the Treasury to draw out gold; these greenbacks were placed in the Treasury, and have been used to meet the expenses of the government. We have thus added greatly to the national debt, and made a heavy increase in the annual interest charges, simply in order to meet the deficiency caused by that abominable piece of legislation, the Wilson bill.

This is a situation which ought to be met by Congress at once. Enough should be added to the revenues to meet all the demands of government expenditure.

Yet there seems to be "a lion in the path." The session will be short—expiring, by constitutional limitation on March 4 next; the House is Republican; the balance of power in the Senate is with the clique of Populists; the President is a free trade Democrat. To amend the tariff on protective lines is probably impossible. To pass the Dingley bill is probably quite as difficult. An extra session of Congress early next summer, is more and more talked of.

If tariff legislation is thus deadlocked, there is one thing Congress should do. That is, to cut the appropriations to the bone, and bring them within the revenues. A limit of $600,000,000 is talked of by the House committee on appropriations. Make it one-sixth less, and hold the expenditures sternly to that limit. And do it in such a way that the people will understand that there are important objects which need more money, which must have more money, and that the next Congress, after it passes a tariff bill, which will produce enough revenue, must increase the expenditures so as to cover the objects neglected in this year's appropriations.

Cut the appropriations to the bone, gentlemen!

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

Senator Chandler is not going about his bimetallic campaign in a way to please Senator Peffer, who, however, thinks Senator Chandler's plan for an international monetary commission may at least be useful in furnishing the Populists in Congress with an opportunity to "discuss the money question generally."

That is exactly what the country does not want. It has heard too much of their silly theories already. Talking in Congress on the exploded silver issue is merely a waste of valuable time, and a weariness to the flesh.

Nor is there any need of another monetary commission. We have had several, and they were spent in exploiting the ideas of theorists. What we want is some practical work. The premise of the Republican platform is that an attempt will be made to obtain an international agreement. We trust President McKinley will abandon all ideas of another monetary conference, but make the subject one of direct negotiation through diplomatic channels.

Our ambassadors and ministers at the capitals of the European commercial nations are the proper persons to make representations directly to those governments, and obtain a direct and authoritative answer to the question whether they will enter into an international agreement regarding silver. If the answer is affirmative, the details can then be arranged. If they refuse, that ends the project. An international agreement must have the consent of the parties interested. Without it, we can do nothing.

"WAR OF DEPOPULATION."

That is what the Spanish newspapers in Havana are urging.

They claim that Weyler must butcher in order to end the war.

If these butcheries include women and children, they argue it is but the fortune of war.

They call it a necessity, and let it go at that.

The civilized world does not believe an excuse can be offered for such wholesale butchery.

Nothing can justify the outrages committed under the orders of Weyler.

The code of civilization does not justify the murder of non-combatants.

If there is no other reason why the United States should interfere, the wholesale slaughter of the helpless is sufficient.

Should this government remain inactive, when women and children are ruthlessly murdered almost in sight of our shores?

If the self-interest of the United States is not sufficient to cause interference, humanity demands action.

Why should there be quibbling on technical points of international law, when rapine and murder run riot?

Does not Spain's inhuman action justify interference.

THE IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

On December 15 the fifth session of the national Irrigation Congress will begin its deliberations, in Phoenix, Arizona. The first session of this body was held in Salt Lake City, the second in Los Angeles, the third in Denver, and the fourth in Albuquerque. It will be seen that its meeting-places are all in "arid America," where the need of irrigation is recognized by every one as a necessary factor in their prosperity. But the question, in its broader sense, is national.

Irrigation offers the safest and surest investment for capital. It is the only means by which much of the capital now invested in all kinds of mortgages in the semi-arid and arid regions will ever receive remunerative returns. It is the only means of giving homes to thousands of homeseekers in the most beautiful, fertile and delightful part of the United States. The day of theorizing in irrigation is past. The time for action has come. Hence its promoters are trying to make the coming congress thoroughly practical and business-like in every particular.

The friends of C. W. Fairbanks claim that he has the fight for Senator from Indiana won. They claim 60 of the 85 votes that will be cast in the Republican caucus. Now let us see if the legislature votes that way. If it does, it will choose a good Senator, anyhow.

Funny people, those of Pennsylvania. One man called another a mugwump, who had him arrested for defamation of character. The court discharged the prisoner, ruling that the designation is complimentary rather than otherwise.

Young men or old should not fail to read Thos. Baker's offer on page 6.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

Nothing has occurred to change the situation as regards the outlook for revenue legislation outlined last week. It seems to be pretty well taken for granted that no real effort will be made to pass the Dingley bill, but that a new measure will be brought forward probably at an extra session to be called shortly after the new administration comes into power. There seems to be a strong pressure brought to bear in favor of a thorough revision of the tariff from a protectionist standpoint, and the indications are that the advocates of this course will have their way. There will, doubtless, be a considerable amount of debate in Congress, and in the press, as is always the case when the tariff comes up for discussion, but the fact that added revenue is needed will doubtless prevent any merely factious opposition to whatever measure the leaders of the new administration may bring forward, so that Mr. McKinley and his friends will have a practically free hand as regards their revenue policy. We do not recall any time within a generation when there was so strong a disposition not to embarrass an incoming administration as is manifested to-day.

The most noteworthy event of the week was the issuance by President Cleveland of a retaliatory proclamation ordering the reimposition of tonnage dues upon vessels from Germany. In his proclamation the President recounts the action had in relation to the matter nearly nine years ago, when, upon proof that no tonnage or lighthouse dues were imposed upon American vessels entering the ports of Germany, the President ordered the suspension of the collection of the whole duty of 6c per ton imposed upon vessels entered in the ports of the United States from ports in the German empire, under the act of June 19, 1886. It now appears, however, according to the proclamation, that tonnage or lighthouse dues or a tax or taxes equivalent thereto are in fact imposed upon American vessels and their cargoes entered in German ports higher and other than those imposed upon German vessels on their cargoes entered in ports of the United States, so that the proclamation of January 26, 1888, in its operation and effect contravenes the meaning and intent of the act of Congress of June 19, 1886, and hence the President revokes the prior proclamation, so that the suspended duties are reimposed.

It is understood that this action of the President is based upon the results of an investigation conducted by Commissioner of Navigation Chamberlain, who in the course of his researches found that, while the imperial government of Germany as a nation did not impose any tonnage duties on American vessels arriving at German ports, the maritime states, which compose part of the German empire, do impose such a tax, in violation of the treaty existing between the two countries. The German tonnage tax now being imposed is about 6½c. per ton, or greater than the tax revoked by the President in his proclamation of January 26, 1888, and which is now revived. The proclamation will affect all vessels coming from German ports to ports of the United States, without regard to the nationality of the vessels. American maritime interests will be only slightly affected by the action of the President. The matter has, it is learned, long been the subject of diplomatic correspondence. It seems somewhat curious that it has been allowed to drift into the condition in which it is at present.

Currency reform will not lack for an organization to press it upon the attention of Congress. The conference of boards of trade which met at Indianapolis last week effected a permanent organization, and a committee appointed to present a proposition looking toward further action reported it as the sense of the conference that a general convention of the representatives of the commercial bodies of the country should be held at some convenient time and place for the purpose of suggesting such legislation as may in their judgment be necessary to place the currency system of the country upon a sound and permanent basis. It was subsequently decided to call the convention to meet at Indianapolis on January 5 next. There seems to be no doubt that the January conference will be well attended. A report advocating aggressive action by trade organizations in the direction of currency reform was submitted to the New York Chamber of Commerce by ex-Comptroller Trenholm last week, and though no action was taken upon the report it is known that the chamber will be represented at the Indianapolis conference.

In a report just submitted to Secretary Carlisle, Commissioner-General Stump, of the Bureau of Immigration, embodies the results of his journey to Italy to urge upon the Italian authorities the importance of taking measures to restrict the emigration of Italians of such a class as will not be permitted to land in the United States. It appears that a special council composed of experts in political and social science was appointed to consider the subject, and after hearing Mr. Stump's explanation of the laws of the United States restricting immigration the council declared that immediate action would be taken on the suggestions made. The commissioner says that he has reason to believe that other governments would adopt like measures in order to lessen the deportation of their citizens in case the action of the Italian government should find favor with Secretary Carlisle's administration of the Immigration Bureau.

Mr. Stump says that he is satisfied, from general observation in Europe, that the knowledge that our laws and regulations have been strictly enforced, and a successful evasion thereof rendered highly improbable, and the difficulties of effecting an unlawful landing increased, will prevent in the future the immigration of the prohibited classes, notwithstanding the temptation which may be offered by an increase in the demand for labor attending the revival of our industries so anxiously expected with the beginning of the new year. One of the features of the commissioner's report is a translation of a proclamation by Prime Minister Rudini, in which are incorporated extracts from the United States laws affecting immigration, giving in detail the classes of people who are likely to be declared ineligible of landing, and warning them that the immigrant must not listen to the advice which may be given him by agents or sub-agents in Italy as to the manner in which he should behave before the commission. It is remarked that many immigrants who received advice in Italy had falsely declared to the commission that they had work secured in the United States, thinking thereby that they might improve their situation. They were, on the contrary excluded as having been engaged abroad under a labor contract. The immigrant, the proclamation goes on, should always tell the truth, and the investigation commission may be counted on to act in accordance with equity and justice.

The most striking passage in Mr. Morgan's report as Treasurer of the United States relates to greenback redemption. During the fifteen months ending with September, he informs us, no less a sum than $192,972,205 in gold was paid out on presentation of greenbacks. That is to say, considerably more than one-half of all the greenbacks in existence were redeemed in those fifteen months. But will they stay "redeemed"? Oh, no. A wise Congress has ordered the Treasurer to put them all out again, and "redeem" them all over again as often as they are thrust in his face. For a nation that boasts of being "smart," and piques itself on its Yankee 'cuteness, this position is one of the most astonishing ever known. We practically advertise to all the world that if gold is needed anywhere, all that is necessary is to walk up to Uncle Sam's counter and get it. We furiously curse all who accept the invitation and call them unpatriotic, yet we just as furiously curse those who propose to avert the continuance of the folly by cancelling the greenbacks as fast as redeemed.

Free coinage of fractional silver seems to be indulged in to a noticeable extent by enterprising counterfeiters, judging from the statements made by secret service officials. A noteworthy feature of the product of these private mints is that not base metal, but silver is used, and many of the coins which have been discovered by the government officials are both heavier and finer than the coins struck at the government mints. These facts render the counterfeits difficult of detection, the only method of distinguishing them being by weighing and assaying. The Treasury officials believe that in order to stop the fraud new dies and designs must be adopted and the present output of the mints be recoined.

The rinderpest or cattle plague, is one of the greatest hindrances to the development of South Africa. It is now raging from the Victoria Nyanza to the Cape of Good Hope. The disease is not confined to South Africa, however, but has at times prevailed in Asiatic Russia, India and China. Twice it has appeared in Great Britain, where, as no remedy could be found, it was stamped out by the slaughter of all infected herds. Dr. Koch, the famous bacteriologist, has now gone to Africa to study the malady from his special standpoint. The continuance of the plague means the impoverishment of millions of people, with possible wars and revolutions, and the discovery of a remedy is an object well worthy the best efforts of the scientist.

Periodically the announcement is made that the quarrelsome, revolutionary little republics of Central America have formed, or are to form, a permanent union among themselves. This news is generally followed within a few months by the outbreak of a dispute, occasionally reaching the dignity of warfare between some two of their number, and the project of uniting them all in a federation disappears for a time. It is hard to say how much importance is to be attached to the declaration by the Honduran government that Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua have joined their fortunes under the sounding title of "The Greater Republic of Central America." If this union should prove stable and the other two states, Costa Rica and Guatemala, should enter the league, some measure of peace and progress might be expected in this much vexed and almost wholly undeveloped territory. Central America possesses magnificent natural resources, and if its jangling communities could be solidly bound together by ties of mutual interest under a strong federal government, it might speedily become one of the leading Latin-American nations in wealth and prosperity.

Russia is following Chile in her laudable effort ot go on to a gold basis. A report from St. Petersburg has it that the Czar has given his assent to the decrees necessary to the transition. This move of the Muscovites should surprise nobody, as Russia has been quietly preparing for it for some years. She has been getting together all the gold she could procure within her own territory or buy elsewhere. Indeed, much of her store came from the United States; Russian buying played no inconsiderable part in our recent drain of gold. The figures of the Bank of Russia show the rapidity of her accumulation of the standard metal. In October, 1895, the bank held $382,000,000, which it had increased to $444,000,000 in October, 1896. Truly, as the barbarian countries become civilized the translated New Englanders in our own West lapse back to barbarism, just to keep the balance of things in the world even, no doubt.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Ball bearing casters are new.

A rotary gas engine is out.

Barrels are now washed by machinery.

A revolving chair swing was recently patented.

Car axles are made by a recently patented mechanism.

A French chemist has designed a non-poisonous matchs.

A bookkeeping and cash registering machine has been designed by a Brooklyn man.

A folding portable confessional for the use of traveling priests has been designed by an Ohio man.

Railway spikes are to be made with fluted sides to prevent the possibility of their slipping or turning.

A machine for wrapping boxes and securing the wrappers with glue has been invented by a Brooklyn man.

A German has been granted a patent on a sewing needle made with the center and eye flat, the rest of the needle being round.

A recently patented marking brush has a reservoir in the handle to hold the marking fluid, discharging it through a tube to the center of the bristles.

A recently designed horseshoe has a spring frame attached to the shoe, adapted to fit over the edge of the hoof and locked in position by a thumb-screw.

A Swiss engineer named Taux has just patented a new process of tempering steel by electricity that makes steel much harder but gives it the desired elasticity.

Electric light globes are now made with corrugations on one half and clear glass on the other half, the corrugated side reflecting the light back through the plain glass.

An Ohio man has a patented mail-bag catcher for use on trains which has five fingers arranged in the form of a cradle and extending from the car similar to the old style, having but a single arm.

To steady a billiard cue a Philadelphian has designed a rest, consisting of a thumb and forefinger rings fastened together and having a block projecting upward, with a small roller in it on which the cue rests.

A new horse-detacher, to be used in case of runaways, has a foot lever connected with the king bolt. Pressure on the lever draws the bolt and releases the tongue and whiffletrees. The inventor is a German.

Fountain tooth-brushes are an improvement over the old style. The handle contains a reservoir and a tube runs from this to the center of the brush proper to discharge the liquid on the bristles.

A Wisconsin woman has designed an ironing table in which the board rests on springs. The table also has a lamp bracket, several drawers, a number of rollers on which to hang the clothes when ironed and a standard for the irons.

A new railroad crossing is worked by a lever at the side of the track, the operation of throwing one pair of rails into position for use displacing the other pair, thus removing the line of track from one railroad when the other is in use.

Extension tables in which the leaves can be placed in the under side when not in use are new. The leaves fold through the center and are held in a pocket under the table top, then clung, catch with the rush generally used for this purpose.

FORTY-TWO WOUNDS FROM SPANIPH MACHETES.

This Cuban soldier is named Juan Feblis. The Cubans under General Maceo attacked the strongly-fortified town of Candelaria, Pinar del Rio province. Feblis was unable to retreat with his comrades on account of a wound on the knee. The Spanish guerillas, or irregular troops, caught him. They usually carry the machete. Juan received forty-two cuts.

The difference between the use of this keen "corn-cutter" in Cuban and in Spanish hands is shown by the fact that Feblis still lives.—New ork World.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The Manitoba census shows a population of 183,425.

In Australia the growing of wheat on the share system is rapidly extending.

Over 5,000 barrels of apples have been shipped from Montreal so far this season.

Next year is the centennial of the silk hat, which first came into common use in Paris in 1797.

In Johannesberg shopkeepers make at least 100 per cent profit. Everything is booming and wages are high.

The first number of a new paper entitled the German Industrial Advertiser, in the Japanese language, has appeared.

The meeting of the British Association in Toronto next year promises to develop a great international gathering of scientists.

James Cameron, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Yarmouth, N. S., 23 years of age, dropped dead while playing tennis last week.

The increase in the population of France from 1880 to 1895 was but 124,000, or only an annual average of .07 per cent of its population.

The Imperial Bank of Germany has existed 20 years. Its system is by no means as simple or as perfect as in the United States.

The results of the census of 1895 in Germany give a population of 52,244,900, an increase since 1880 of 2,816,027, or 1.14 per cent increase per year.

No man who is intoxicated, or whose breath is even tainted with strong drink, be allowed to take his post on a train on the Grand Trunk Railway.

John Endicott, of Beverly, Mass., who is nearly 100 years old, is said to be the only living eye-witness of the famous engagement between the Chesapeake and the Shannon.

A bronz monument has been erected in Paris to the memory of Jean Leclaire, the man who 54 years ago introduced among the workmen of his factory the system of profit-sharing.

The average cost of men-of-war in Nelson's time was only $300,000 for a large 100-gun ship. The Magnificent, one of the latest and finest in the British navy, cost $4,500,000.

French authorities say the oldest medicinal recipe is a hair tonic for an Egyptian queen, which is dated 4,000 B. C. and direct that dogs' paws and asses' hoofs be boiled with dates in oil.

The tricentenary of the introduction of the potato is to be celebrated in Great Britain this year. It was in 1586 that Sir Walter Raleigh planted the first Irish potato on his estate near Cork.

The Hartford Courant claims first place for Connecticut, as showing a greater ratio of gain for the Republican ticket than any other state. The gain over 1892 was practically 60,000, or 15,000 for each Congressional district.

Great Britain's new cruiser Talbot, which is to replace the Magicienne on the North American station, will greatly strengthen the fleet, as she is twice the size of the vessel she replaces, and has a much more powerful armament.

William E. Kettles is the name of the operator in Wash

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized as standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. S.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. You have probably never seen a watch like this and must therefore depend upon us for the description of the latest, handsomest and best watch made by the great American Waltham and Elgin factories. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint pings, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county commissioners, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, rings and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

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No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works, 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper, sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $32.50.

No. 201—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years. The movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

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Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings, with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

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Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
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Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksourg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Flirt cranes.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Fea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chapellgrasville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
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An exceedingly natty and becoming suit for small boys is here shown, made of Scotch frieze, decorated with rows of braid. The vest is fitted by shoulder and under-arm seams, and closes in the center-back. The front of vest is covered with the material and the back is of lining only. Over this vest the jaunty little jacket in Eton style is worn, flaring apart in front, the seamless back being slightly pointed in center. The handsome sailor collar, that shapes in pointed lapels, forms a pleasing addition. This vest may be substituted at times for the regulation knitted sweater in

6907—BOYS' SUIT.

white, blue or cardinal, thus providing a pleasing variation. The short knee trousers are fitted by inside and outside leg seams, and close at the sides, inside bands at the top being provided with button-holes to attach to buttons on to the under waist.

Heavy serge, tweed, covert and broadcloth, homespun, corduroy, whipcord, velvet or velveteen are suitable materials for making suits in this style, while machine-stitching or braid will form the most appropriate finish. The judicious mother will recognize the value of just such a pattern, as it is one of the newest styles for small boys.

To make this suit for a boy six years of age will require one and one-half yards of fifty-four-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6907, is cut for boys four, six and eight years old, and retails for twenty-five cents.

NO. 6886—LADIES' AND MISSES' KNICKERBOCKERS.

These practical garments are made of black flannel serge with machine stitching as a finish. The upper portion cut in the form of a circular yoke is fitted at the waist by small darts or pinces. Closing of the yoke is effected in center back with buttons and button-holes. To the lower edge of this yoke the knickerbockers are joined perma-

6886—Ladies' and Misses' Knickerbockers.

nently to position in front, while the back and sides are provided with buttons and button-holes for convenience in adjustment. The shaping is accomplished by the usual center, inside and outside leg seams. The legs are gathered at the lower edge and finished with calf bands that fit closely below the knee closing with buttons and button-holes, the knickerbockers drooping over the calf bands, which may be substituted for casings and an elastic drawn through to regulate the fullness.

The garment may be used in connection with a cycling suit, for shopping, traveling or general utility wear. To the business woman the knickerbockers will be found indispensable and when worn beneath a skirt of heavy weight, petticoats may be altogether discarded. A skirt of three-quarters length, knickerbockers, leggings or bicycle shoes form an admirable rainy-day costume. Thus equipped the "up-to-date" young woman can well defy the elements.

To make these knickerbockers for a lady in the medium size will require 2¾ yards of 44-inch wide material, and for a miss in the medium size will require 2 yards of the same width material. The pattern, No. 6886, can be had in sizes for ladies of 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure, and for misses of twelve, fourteen and sixteen years. It retails for twenty-five cents.

NO. 6918—MISSES' COAT WITH SLASHED COLLAR.

Fawn box-cloth made this stylish top garment that is finished on the free edges with straps of the cloth on either side in tailor fashion. The jacket of becoming length has the conventional box or loose-fitting fronts closing in double-breasted fashion on the left side with two large pearl buttons and button-holes. Pocket

NO. 6918—MISSES' COAT WITH SLASHED COLLAR.

laps cover openings to the pockets that are placed at convenient depth at each side. The back, shaped according to the tailor made garments, has the center-back seam omitted while the side seams are carried to the shoulder. Below the waist line additional material is laid in deep box-plaits, giving a decided smart finish. A noticeable feature is the handsome collar mounted upon a band and slashed in four sections, producing a fashionable flare and affording a pleasing novelty from the regulation storm collar. The stylish sleeves fit closely below the elbow, the top being gathered in bigot style, and the wrists are completed by deep flaring cuffs slashed to harmonize with the collar.

All seasonable cloakings will develop stylishly by the mode, care being taken to select the pretty shades becoming to youthful forms such as fawn, dove-gray, Havana-brown, Hunter's green. Galoon or braid may be used to form a pretty finish in preference to the straps of cloth.

To make this coat for a miss of fourteen years it will require two yards of fifty-four-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6918, can be had in sizes for misses twelve, fourteen and sixteen years of age, and retails for 25 cents.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

Fifty Years Ago.

President Polk in the White House chair,
While in Lowell was Doctor Ayer;
Both were busy for human weal
One to govern and one to heal.
And, as a president's power of will
Sometimes depends on a liver-pill,
Mr. Polk took Ayer's Pills I trow
For his liver, 50 years ago.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills

were designed to supply a model purgative to people who had so long injured themselves with griping medicines. Being carefully prepared and their ingredients adjusted to the exact necessities of the bowels and liver, their popularity was instantaneous. That this popularity has been maintained is well marked in the medal awarded these pills at the World's Fair 1893.

50 Years of Cures.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

Now the busy officeseeker
'Round the town doth madly chase,
Begging every friend and stranger
To support him for a place.
And, to hear him tell his story,
As petition he unrolls,
One would think he saved the party
From a licking at the polls.

Up and down the street he wanders,
Every hour of every day,
Getting names until he's thinking
Things will surely come his way.
He is confident of winning
As he sees his list increase,
And then proudly tells his neighbors
That he's got it slick as grease.

But when everything looks rosy
Then there comes a trouble sore,
For he runs against more seekers
Till he finds at least a score.
Every one of them is hopeful,
All indulge in sweeping claims,
Show their lists, and then discover
Each contains the same good names.

It's too late for further effort,
For there's not an hour to waste,
So they roll up their petitions
And all file them in haste.
Then come days of weary waiting,
Hopes and fears that fluctuate,
And each visit of the postman
Causes hearts to palpitate.

But at last suspense is ended,
The appointment is announced,
And the score of officeseekers
Find that they have all been bounced;
For the man who gets the office
That each thought would be his own
Is a chap they never heard of,
And he played his game alone.
—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

APPLES IN PLENTY.

An Enormous Crop, and Largely Increased Foreign Demand.

The enormous crop of apples this year and the low prices have caused a largely increased demand for them in England and Scotland, and also in several continental countries—Holland, Belgium and Germany.

This is apples year, and a large crop was expected, but such a great yield of all varities has not been known for several apple years. King apples, Northern Spies, Baldwins and Greenings, Pippins, Snow apples, and apples with newer names, and cooking apples are here in great abundance.

Mr. Carter, of the firm of A. F. Young & Co., one of the largest fruit commission firms in the city, said that at one time the supply was so great that the apples did not bring enough to pay for the freight. Good apples could be had in the country at 50 cents a barrel in bulk, and the barrel and freight cost about 60 cents more. The prices now are $1 to $1.50 per barrel for Spy and King apples, 80 cents to $1 for Baldwins and Greenings, and from 60 to 75 cents for common cooking apples. Prices have not been so low for years, and there immediately was an increased demand in England. Shipments from this city, Boston, Montreal and Halifax have been very large, New York alone sending 29,448 barrels, and the other cities mentioned shipped 153,866 barrels during the last week. The present rate of freight is 75 cents per barrel, and nearly all the steamers that are to sail within the next fortnight are booked to take apples. Apples do not take an ocean voyage well, but great care is being taken to keep the shipments in good condition.

Pippins are at present in the best demand in England, and during the week they sold as high as £1 4s. there. Next in favor come Baldwins and Greenings. Up to the present, said Mr. Carter, apples were regarded more as a luxury in Europe, rather than a staple artic'e of food, as in the case here, and only wealthy classes could indulge in them regularly, but this year the poorer classes there will be able to enjoy them.

During the present season 1,569,679 barrels of apples have been exported, and of these a large proportion came from this state, where the crop is estimated to have been 8,000,000 barrels.

Melancholy.

The melancholy days have come,
And saddening are the sights
That greet the eye, but the days are not
As murker to the nights.
Neath cotton sheet and counterpain
You shivering cry: "When wilt
Thou, oh, thou haughty landlady,
Put on that winter quilt?
—Detroit Tribune.

WHEN GIRLS SHOULD MARRY.

After They Have Qualified Themselves to Be Housekepers.

A girl should marry when she is capable of understanding and fulfilling the duties of a true wife and thorough housekeeper, and never before. No matter how old she may be, if she is not capable of managing a house in every department of it she is not old enough to get married. When she promises to take the position of wife and homemaker, the man who holds her promise has every right to suppose that she knows herself competent to fulfill it. If she prove to be incompetent or unwilling he has good reason to consider himself cheated. No matter how plain the house may be, if it is in accordance with the husband's means and he finds it neatly kept and the meals (no matter how simple) served from shining dishes and clean table linen, that husband will leave his home with loving words and thoughts and look ahead with eagerness to the time when he can return.

Let a girl play the piano and acquire every accomplishment within her power the more the better, for every one will be that much more power to be used in making a happy home. At the same time, if she cannot go into the kitchen, if necessary, and cheerfully prepare just as good a meal as any one could with the same material, and serve it neatly after it is prepared, then she would better defer her marriage until she learns. If girls would thoroughly fit themselves for the position of intelligent housekeepers before they marry there would be fewer discontented, unhappy wives and more happy homes.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Every man should read the offer of Thos. Slater on page 5 of this paper.

HONEST LAWYERS

FIRST MAN PEOPLE RUN TO IN TIME OF TROUBLE.

Entertaining Talk With a Toledo Attorney—How a Shammer Came to Grief.

"Most all lawyers are like hackmen. They stand ready to carry you wherever you want to go and to take your money for so doing, but if the true lawyer sees that he is going to run you up against a stone wall, he will refuse to take you in his care and will tell you that you can not go where you desire to go."

The above words were uttered yesterday to a Blade man by one of Toledo's most prominent attorneys. Continuing he said:

"At least sixty out of every hundred cases that are brought to a lawyer have to be refused on the ground that there is absolutely no cause for legal action. Suppose, for instance, a woman meets you, assuming you are a woman, on the street, and calls out in a loud tone of voice:

"'Miss Scribbler, you are no better than you ought to be.'

"Several other people have heard the remark and you are so indignant at the covert insinuation that you at once rush to your lawyer and wish to begin a suit for damages. The lawyer will tell you that the remark is capable of a variety of interpretations. That the other side will at once show that no woman is literally any better than she 'ought' to be, nor indeed can any mortal on this terrestrial sphere make claim to the condition so beatific that she may be described as being better than she ought to be. So you will readily see that there is really no ground for complaint, and the lawyer, if he be a conscientious one, explains to you just how it is, and then you decide not to push your claim for damages. Some law firms refuse to handle damage suits. A case of this kind dies out by itself. Proceedings may be postponed for six month or more, and at the end of that time the parties have either become reconciled or have no further inclination to prosecute.

"Another class of cases that come to us in great numbers," continued the attorney, "cases which we are unable to take because of the hopelessness of carrying them

"AS HIGH AS THAT."

to a successful issue, are the divorce suits which numberless women try to bring against their husbands on ridiculous grounds, or for causes of which they have absolutely no proof. For example, a woman will come to us and say: 'My husband stays out late at night. When he comes home he is a little tipsy. The thing has been going on for so many years that patience has ceased to be a virtue. I wish to get a divorce from him.'

"Now, it generally happens that no one has ever seen her husband transcend the proprieties except the woman herself. Of course, proof is therefore lacking. The usual expedient of a wife who claims that her husband is untrue to her, is to hire a private detective. But it is generally accepted that any man so despicable as to engage in that kind of work is not to be believed, so no matter how damaging the testimony he gives, it rarely ever influences the judge against the husband's side.

"When a case is brought to us, we ask, as all lawyers do, that the whole truth be told to us. If the client be innocent, the case is comparatively easy; but if he be guilty, then you have to find out the best possible way to clear him. He has done wrong, but he comes to his lawyer, just as a patient goes to a physician, to be healed of the moral iniquity and cured, so far as the eye of the law is concerned.

"You ask, is it legitimate for a lawyer to defend a man or woman when he knows that, in the eyes of the Lord and the law, the person is guilty and should be punished?

"Yes, it is legitimate; perfectly so; and even the courts of justice, who are the first to attack the person for the evil deed, hold it to be legitimate.

"It is easy to win a case for a woman.

"PATIENCE AS CEASED TO BE A VIRTUE."

The natural chivalry of American men makes them sympathize with a woman, when they would feel none whatever for a man. Any able lawyer will tell you that he finds it easier to win one weak case for a woman than three strong cases for a man.

"In confusing a witness who is giving wrong testimony, it is well to sympathize with him and nurse him along, getting into his confidence until he begins to think there is some mistake, and that he is not the prosecuting lawyer at all. By strategy of this kind I once won a case for a railroad company when it looked very serious for my clients. The plaintiff came into court looking weak and feeble, holding his right arm in a stiff, cramped fashion. He declared that he had not been able to lift his arm for over a year; that it was impossible for him to raise it as high as his chin, and all because of the injury inflicted by the defendant. The jury was against me, as all juries are in such cases, for they will invariably decide with the individual rather than with corporations and companies. 'Down with monopoly' is the feeling uppermost in the minds of the average juror.

"I made up my mind that the alleged victim of the accident was shamming and that he could lift his arm if he desired to do so. Hoping to make him do so, I said to him very patronizingly:

"'Your arm is very painful, is it not?'

"'Yes, sir, it is.'

"'You have talked to your physician, your family and friends, haven't you?'

"'Yes, sir.'

"'They all know you can not lift it?'

"'Oh, yes.'

"'Were you able to lift it before the accident?'

"'Yes; oh, yes.'

"'How high could you life it?' was my next question.

"Before he could think of the consequences up went the injured arm, with the answer, 'As high as that,' way above the man's head, to show how high he could lift it before it became permanently stiffened by the accident.

"Of course, the roar in the court room which succeded this coup d'etat dumbfounded the shammer, and he didn't get his damages."

Disappointment.

The little Chicago girl had hung up her stocking.

It was Christmas eve.

"Papa," she lisped, "I hope Santa Claus will bring me a ton of coal."

The father's eyes dimmed with tears as he thought of the disappointment that would be hers when she awakened in the morning.

For all he had in the world was a few cents more than 2,000,000, and at the going prices of real estate that would barely keep them in drinking water until spring.—Detroit Tribune.

Giving Him a Broad Hint.

Augustus (who has stayed much beyond the orthodox hour)—So you don't admire men of conservative views like myself, Miss Rosy?

Miss Rosy (glancing at the clock)—No, indeed. I prefer men who have some 'go' in them.—New York Tribune.

WILL YOU LIVE LONG?

Some of the Signs of Longevity Noted by Physicians and Savants.

Every one is interested in the question of long life as applied to himself, and all facts bearing on it are noted with becoming feelings of self-congratulation or otherwise, says the New York Medical Record. It is the staying power that is in demand, backed by an inherited and reserved vitality of resistance against the usual evils to which all flesh and other perishable things are subject.

The law of heredity, which our life insurance companies understand so well, is at the bottom of all calculations as to whether a particular man or woman is wound up for 70 years or will run down at 20 or 40 years.

Aside from this testimony, there are certain physical qualities which have great weight in determining the result of the struggle against a conspiring environment. An oak has one configuration, and a cedar, pine, or mullein stalk another. It is the proper recognition of such distinctions that aids physicians in their prognosis, and turns the balance against apparently desperate chances.

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Science, Mr. F. W. Warner, in speaking upon the subject of biometry, offered some very interesting data, which are in the main true.

"Every person," said he, "carries about with him the physical indications of his longevity. A long-lived person may be distinguished from a short-lived person at sight. In many instances a physician may look at the hand of a patient and tell whether he will live or die.

"In the vegetable as well as in the animal kingdom, each life takes its characteristics from the life from which it sprung. Among these inherited characteristics we find the capacity for continuing its life for a given length of time. This capacity for living we call the inherent or potential longevity.

"Under favorable conditions and environment the individual should live out the potential longevity. With unfavorable conditions this longevity may be greatly decreased, but with a favorable environment the longevity of the person, the family, or the race may be increased."

Herein are presented the two leading considerations, always present and always interdependent—the inherited potentiality and the reactionary influences of environment.

"The primary conditions of longevity," he continues, "are that the heart, lungs and digestive organs, as well as the brain, should be large. If these organs are large, the trunk will be long and the limbs comparatively short. The person will appear tall in sitting and short in standing. The hand will have a long and somewhat heavy palm and short fingers. The brain will be deeply seated, as shown by the orifice of the ear being low. The blue hazel or brown hazel eye, as showing an intermission of temperament, is a favorable indication. The nostrils being large, open, and free indicates large lungs. A pinched and half-closed nostril indicates small or weak lungs."

These are general points of distinction from those of short-lived tendencies, but, of course, subject to the usual individual exceptions. Still, it is well acknowledged that the characteristics noted are expressions of inherent potentiality, which have been proven on the basis of abundant statistical evidence.

Again he says truly:

"In the case of persons who have short-lived parentage on one side and long-lived on the other side, the question becomes more involved. It is shown in grafting and hybridizing that nature makes a supreme effort to pass the period of the shorter longevity and extend the life to the greater longevity. Any one who understands these weak and dangerous periods of life is forewarned and forearmed. It has been observed that the children of long-lived parents mature much later and are usually backward in their studies.

AFTER THE WEDDING.

The flowery white wedding is over,
And over the rush of the train;
To turn your sweet eyes to your lover,
And kiss him again!

There's no one to bore or to bother,
There's no one to call and to stay;
The whole pretty world, and each other,
Are ours from to-day.

This quaint little parlor, how pleasant
Its flavor of long-ago life!
But the crown of its life is the present,
My darling, my wife!

The pleasant wood fire's glowing steady,
The table is set, and for two;
The little white table all ready
For me and for you.

Do you think that I ever shall bore you?
Will you ever be angry with me?
Ah! let me sit still and adore you
While you pour out the tea!

I'll help you, no boasts will I utter,
But you see how domestic I am.
I can cut you your thin bread and butter
And hand you the jam.

After tea we will stroll down the meadow
By moonlight, as true lovers should;
And kiss in the corner of shadow
You see by the wood.

One kiss—now my teacup is carried
To the place that's laid opposite you;
My wife pours the tea out, we're married!
Oh! can it be true?

—Pall Mall Gazette.

PRINCESS'S MUMMY

On Its Way to Hobart College—2,500 Years Old.

One of Egypt's princesses is now resting in Geneva. It is said to be 2,500 years old. It is bound in the original wrapping which it had when it was laid away over 20 centuries ago. It is also said that this mummy is one of the most valuable ever shipped to America. The mummy was accompanied by a very interesting letter from Frederick C. Penfield, who sent the mummy to Mrs. Silver, wife of Prof. John A. Silver, professor of history at Hobart College. Mrs. Silver has presented the mummy to the college. The letter says that the mummy was found two years ago with several others when a temple at Akhmin was excavated. It has a value over most mummies sent out of Egypt inasmuch as the wrappings have never been disturbed.—Auburn Advertiser.

A Shocking Solecism.

"Did you heah that Chawlie Dunna had been dwopped from our set?"

"No; why was that?"

"Theah was a fire at his boarding house at high noon. Don't you know, all Chawlie ran out in the stweet in his dwess coat, don't you know?"—Cleveland Leader.

Much in Little

Is especially true of Hood's Pills, for no medicine ever contained so great curative power in so small space. They are a whole medicine chest, always ready, always satisfactory; prevent a cold or fever, cure all liver ills, sick headache, biliousness, jaundice, constipation. 25c. The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills

M'KINLEY'S ROOMS.

TEMPORARY QUARTERS FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT.

Ebbitt House Will Shelter the Disguished Guest Until After the Inauguration.

When President-elect McKinley goes to Washington about the 1st of next March he will be quartered at the Ebbitt House. The rooms themselves have already been selected by Abner McKinley, and are now being arranged for the reception of the distinguished guest.

They form a private suite, fronting west, south and east. Along the greater length the wide windows look down upon that section of Fourteenth street with which Major McKinley became very familiar during his years of Congressional life, and known throughout the country as "Newspaper Row." A private corridor will be set aside, and the rooms not required by the President will not be occupied, thus securing to Mr. McKinley absolute privacy. He will be as secluded as if in a private house. Private parlors on the first floor will be set aside for his exclusive use,

M'KINLEY'S RECEPTION ROOM AT EBBITT HOUSE.

and a separate dining-room, reached by a private staircase, will be reserved for him.

There are ten rooms in the suite selected by Abner McKinley. They are on the third floor and are Rooms Nos. 301, 303, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312 and the three rooms having a separate entrance from the private corridor, and known as No. 332. These three rooms are the most delightful in the hotel, and during their occupancy by the President those bridal couples selecting the time of inauguration in which to spend their honeymoon in Washington will have to take less magnificent quarters in the hotel.

In these rooms are included Rooms Nos. 303, 304 and 308, occupied by Major McKinley during his Congressional life after 1882. Prior to that he occupied for six years three rooms in the same part of the house on the first floor. During the later years of his life in Congress, however, he preferred the seclusion of the rooms on the third floor. A parlor bedroom and office were included, the office being Room No. 303. Here he did much of the work of preparing the tariff bill that bears his name, and in this little apartment have gathered at times the foremost representatives of American wealth. The aggregate wealth represented in that room from first to last would buy Cuba, free Ireland, or change the map of Europe.

The rooms now to be occupied by Major McKinley are arranged along both sides of the corridor, and extend the full length of the house on Fourteenth street. They are well lighted and ventilated, and before the President arrives will be entirely refurnished. The ceilings and walls have been frescoed in tasteful tints, and the handsome heavy pile carpets have been ordered. On the first floor the smaller red parlor has been set aside for the President's use, as well as a suite of rooms along the same corridor. Here he will hold such public receptions as become necessary. He will meet his personal friends and those he desires to see privately in the private reception room on the third floor. The private dining-room is a spacious, high ceilinged apartment, just off the public dining-room, and lighted by three high windows.

Major McKinley's party will consist of the President-elect, his wife and mother; niece and nephew, Grace and James McKinley; Mrs. McKinley's sister, Mrs. Barber, and her children; Abner McKinley and wife and maid; Col. John M. Taylor and wife, Mr. and Mrs H. S. Endsley of Johnstown, Pa., and Major J. Smith, U. S. A., and wife.

—Ringing noises in the ears, snapping buzzing, roaring, caused by catarrh, all disappear with the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

SONG.

A robin sang:
The dull world awakened from its sleep,
Cast off its robe of winter sadness;
The leaves from bondage 'gain to peep,
The brooks o'erflowed in jolly madness;
All nature listened to the warning,
All laughed with glee in springtime's morning,
When robin sang.

A poet sang:
It was a song that reached the heart
Of many a man, of every woman,
It was the fruit of perfect art,
It showed a power far divinely human,
His name was known to all; and then
Fame on her tablets wrote it, when
The poet sang.

A mother sang:
Two little eyelids blinked and drooped,
And bright curls nestled on her breast,
Contentment's bounty richly trooped,
Sweet innocence found loving rest.
The slumber fairies tiptoed near,
And all the angels stopped to hear
When mother sang.
—Charles E. Cook in Troy Press.

TWO GAY WIDOWS.

One Leaves the Ashes of Her Dear Departed at a New York Hotel.

A certain widow, a favorite in society and noted for her magnificent hair and teeth, spends much of her time in New York during the winter. After one of her sojourns here, at the hotel where she has always stayed while in the city, a maid found in a closet in her room two handsome wigs, which she took to the office. The clerk at once recognized in them the handsome curling hair of the widow. He was aghast, and perhaps his surprise explains his indiscretion, but he certainly did a most undiplomatic thing. He wrapped the wigs up carefully and expressed them to the widow, with a polite note of explanation. A few days later the wigs came back, with an indignant letter, denying the ownership. While the widow still visits New York frequently, that hotel has lost her patronage for all time to come.

A story of a wife's thoughtlessness that is almost grewsome is told by a well known hotel man. At one of the big hotels, some years ago, a man and his wife came and registered up from the country. The husband seemed to be in poor health, and the wife was evidently of a frivolous turn of mind. She did not give her husband the care that one would expect a wife to pay to a husband who was evidently dying on his feet. After a time they went away, and for a year nothing was heard of them. Then the wife returned to the hotel alone. She was dressed in semi-mourning, and was apparently as gay as ever. She deposited with the management of the hotel a japanned tin box for keeping, which she explained was extremely valuable. She remained about two weeks, and then said that she was going to Europe. She paid her bill and left. The tin box was overlooked. A few weeks later it was found, and efforts were made to communicate with the woman, but she could not be found. After some discussion the box was pried open, and within was found a handsome silver vase which was sealed tightly. The outside bore an inscription which said that the vase contained the remains of ——, who had been cremated on such a date, and the address given was that of a crematory near Brooklyn. The ashes were those of the woman's late husband, and efforts to trace her proved futile, and, so far as is known, she never made any inquiries for the vase.—N. Y. Tribune.

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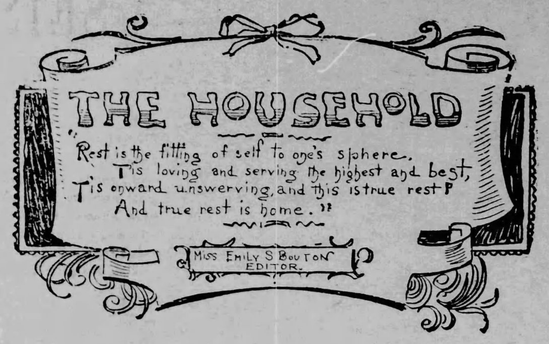
2.	Annie's Love Duet..... Jos. Winters
4.	Esther's Lullaby, Slumber song. G. Mosher
6.	Thinking of Home and Mother..... A. M. Cohen
8.	Flossie, Waltz song..... A. M. Cohen
10.	The Sweetest Song..... L. Denza
12.	The Bridge. Words by Longfellow..... Carew
14.	An Outcast. Character song..... J. J. Fritz
16.	Mamie, or "Trilby" fame..... N. Keenes
19.	'E Dunno Where 'E Are. Comic..... J. Epiel
21.	Keep the Horseshoe Over the Door..... Skelly
23.	Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep..... Knight
25.	Laurine, Do You Think of Me Now?..... H. M. Estabrooke
27.	Ave Maria (Cavalleria Rusticana)..... Mascagni
29.	Juanita. Ballad..... G. Nay



For The Blade.

WHERE THE BLACKBERRIES GROW.

Jennie Harris.

Out on the farm, where the blackberries grew,
A greedy young hand, went the blackberry crew,
Gathered and crushed, in their ruthless delight,
The pattern that God made a beautiful sight.
For O, it was rare and mysterious, too,
To see how the wild tangled blackberries grew.

Can you picture the place where the blackberries grew?
If so, you have over you skies of deep blue,
And down at your feet in the long, matted grass
The vines, blooms and berries, so graceful a mass,
So wayward and witching it all seems to you,
You never can tell how the blackberries grew.

If you should go out where the blackberries grow,
You'd need an experienced gourmand, to show
You the best, for they're not to be seen
At a glance; they are cunningly keen;
And unless you'd a guide, you never could know
Where the most luscious, sweet blackberries grow.

If you should go out to the blackberries' lair,
And peep with bright eyes, you'd discover him where
He crouches and huddles his sweet little form,
Like a tiny black bird, taking fright at the storm;
No, like a sly elf, who is watching you there,
As you hunt for the best in the blackberries' lair.

When spring comes again, and the blackberries grow,
And your lips for a taste of their spiciness glow,
Don't tear at the vines and eat them down fast,
But lift up a spray creeping stealthily past,
And capture the rogues that so cunningly know
How sweet are your lips when the blackberries grow.

THE WORLD'S WAY.

IT LAUGHS WHEN YOU LAUGH, BUT IT FROWNS IF YOU WEEP.

It Does Not Like to Be Reminded of Troubles—A Good Thing, for It Compels Self-Control.

Everybody goes down into the depths sometimes.

The one who seems the happiest, and whose skies are really sunny, has hours when imaginary clouds shut the sunshine away and old Earth takes on an immeasurably dreary look.

At such moments how things pall upon one—things that usually are full of interest! How inexpressibly monotonous and wearisome suddenly becomes the work which lies close to the heart at other times! How gray the heavens are above; how ugly the earth below! How lacking in comfort are the thoughts which usually fill the hours with a longing for accomplishment!

I had descended—descend is a good word here—into one of these moods the other day, and everything had lost its zest, when suddenly a merry, bubbling laugh broke upon my ear. It welled forth just as the singing waters do from the mountain spring as they prepare to go down over the rocks to the green valley below. The laugh made a rift in the clouds; let in the sunlight of hope and faith and courage, which is always shining though we may not see it through our closed eyes. The mist drifted away, and life put on its brighter robes once more. Weariness of daily toil disappeared, and energy to do what lay before me returned. And the laugh did it all.

I recalled then with appreciation the words of that oft-repeated poem, The Way of the World, beginning with "Laugh and the World Laughs with You," and they bore a deeper signification than ever before. There is something in the uprising of the merry notes of spontaneous laughter which arouses in those who hear a glad response. It may be, because it is in unison with Nature upon her brighter side; because it brings us back, albeit unconsciously to ourselves, to a realization that everything that is, is now, or may be made to be, for good. Laugh to-day for it will help us to bear the burdens of to-day, and to-morrow can be lived when it ceases to be to-morrow. The laugh may help some one else out of the slough of despond upon the firm ground dedicated to faith and courage.

"Sing and the hill's will answer;
Sigh, it is lost on the air.
The echoes bound to a joyful sound
But shrink from voicing care."

And so nature sets us the example of giving and holding the expression of bright confidence in the ultimate harmony and equilibrium in all things.

Somewhere I read the story of a saddened woman who resolved to laugh so many times, and so many minutes every day, no matter how untoward the circumstances that surrounded her. And she did it—persevered though often the laugh was dry and crackling, meaning only an effort of the will to express a merriment which she did not feel. Her friends and family called her a crank but she laughed on! And by and by she found her heart was growing lighter, and the force required to laugh was less. She was literally laughing away care, not only from herself but from those around her. As her laugh grew more real, they began to laugh too, and their burdens were easier to carry. In her own way, she had evolved a true philosophy—a philosophy of the higher kind, which sees in all of the everyday trials and perplexities, only opportunities for developing strength to bear bravely the greater burdens and sorrows that may come by and by.

I am ayways sorry for an animal's inability to laugh. It seems as if it would add greatly to a cat's happiness, if, after escaping through her climbing powers from a troop of pursuing boys, she could smile blandly back at them, or even laugh aloud from the secure place in the top of the friendly tree. But she cannot do it. Solemnly if watchfully, she gazes down, because she has not reached that stage in evolution which permits her the luxury of this expression of the feeling by which it is prompted. I have seen dogs that have been closely associated with human beings who seemed to make an effort to express pleasure in that way, but what a caricature it was!

Only human beings may laugh, and this very fact, combined with that other one of the power and the influence that lie in such expression of pleasure and content, teaches us all a lesson. It is that we have no right to bring our cares, our griefs, our burdens to shadow the lives of those who enter into our own life either casually or day by day. Aside from the weakness which it brings to self, it weakens, by depressing, others, and thus helps to unfit them to make the most and best of what the revolving wheel of human life brings for their doing or their bearing. No one can be strong of purpose, and brave in accomplishment if weighed down by mountains of gloom. This then is a good reason why we should laugh as if glad even when the heart is sad.

"I could not do it" said one who read of the woman I spoke of further back. 'I can never laugh unless I feel just like it."

Very likely. But you remember this woman in the story, when she felt at the lowest ebb of courage would go away into her room, shut herself in, and then compel herself to laugh and laugh again and again. It seems an absolute absurdity and yet there was a true philosophy in the act. She wanted to form the habit and this was her only way to do it, for the circumstances of her life were not then provocative of merriment. The very effort had a tendency to bring the corresponding frame of mind, which, we are told, was the final result.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you;
Weep and you weep alone."

A selfish thing this appears, but the world is sometimes wiser than it intends. When it demands smiles instead of frowns, laughter instead of tears, it is really forcing us to do what is, in the finality, best for ourselves. It compels us, if we would not be left alone, to seek the path of overcoming self. It obliges us to at least assume the appearance of cheerfulness, and this very effort, as I said before, is a source of real strength.

When we smile in our griefs, it does not mean forgetfulness, but only a desire not to cloud the sunlight for others. Those who love and understand us best, will know what of agony the smile often hides, will know the effort which lies back of the surface. Those who do not know will not think, for it is true that with the majority

"They want full measure of all your pleasure,
But they do not need your woe."

And unless reminded they soon forget that the sorrowing have sorrow.

Why should they be reminded? If the sun be shining around them, why should it be clouded by what they cannot remedy?

I think it is Celia Thaxter who puts this thought of self-control in these beautiful lines:

"Why should I hug life's ills with cold reserve,
To curse myself and all who love me? Nay!
A thousand times more good than I deserve
God gives me every day.
And in each one of these rebellious tears
Kept bravely back. He makes a rainbow shine.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

OUR COSY CORNER.

THE AUTUMN BRINGS THOUGHTS OF THE COMING WINTER.

Friends Gather Together to Talk Matters Over—Some Pertinent Questions to Answer.

The editor of the Cozy Corner stepped into the Merry-Go-Round for a little chat with Miss Prudence and her boys and girls, and among other interesting experiences heard this, which proves that Bessie, from Georgia, is not one of the helpless creatures we read of:

New England Girl's chicken experience brought so vividly to my mind two similar experiences of my own that I will relate them for the amusement of the circle, and also to prove to the sterner sex that I don't faint at the sight of a mouse.

One night I was roused from my slumbers by a noise in the hen house. My mother, with a light and myself armed with a shotgun, went to the rescue. On arriving at the scene of action we found an old hen who possessed 13 little beauties of chickens elevated several inches off the ground and not a little chick to be seen.

Mother raised the hen with a stick and under her was a snake coiled till it looked as large as a half bushel. While mother was lifting the hen I prepared the gun for use, and placing the muzzle near the snake I pulled the trigger and it was a thing of the past. Next morning it was lying there dead, and only the old hen and one little chick to tell of the adventure of the night.

Another night we were aroused by a similar noise, and arming ourselves as before mother and I went to the rescue; on reaching the hen house we heard a terrible growling proceeding from a remote corner. On closer examination we found the intruder to be a small opossum. While he was growling for all he was worth I fired a load of shot into his mouth, completely demolishing his head. So ends my experience with chicken intruders.

I was reading quite recently the experiences of a woman missionary in Turkey, and among other things she mentioned her "Earthquake Bag." She had heard of the terrible suffering that followed an earthquake from the exposure and want of food, so she made a large bag and in it placed two warm shawls for herself and her daughter, a pair of stockings and overshoes and a wrapper for each, a bottle of wine, a loaf of bread, some old cotton for bandages, a box containing thread, needles, pins and scissors, and one or two other necessary articles.

This bag she hung at the head of her bed, and though there was no sign of an earthquake during the twelve years she was in that country she felt perfectly easy knowing that she was prepared in case it did come.

Although in our country there is little danger from such a convulsion of nature yet it might not be a wholly bad idea to adopt this woman's plan and thus be prepared for a rapid exodus in case of fire or cyclone.

An emergency drawer, or shelf in the house, where one can always find the simple remedy for burns, cuts or accidents of any nature, rolls of bandages, flannel, cotton or linen cloths, etc., has been explained fully in the Cozy Corner, but these are for the troubles that occur to keep one at home, while the "bag" is for use when one is suddenly obliged to leave their home.

"Here lies a poor woman who always was busy;
She lived under pressure that rendered her dizzy.
She belonged to ten clubs, and read Browning at sight.
Showed at luncheons and teas, and would vote if she might;
She served on a school board with courage and zeal,
She golfed and she kodaked and rode on a wheel.
She read Talmot and Ibsen, knew microbes by name,
Approved of Delsarte, was a 'Daughter' and 'Dame.'
Her children went in for the top education,
Her husband went seaward for nervous prostration.
One day on her tablets she found an hour free—
The shock was too great and she died instantly."

I wonder how many women there are among our Cozy Corner friends who live such a high-pressure life as the club woman mentioned in the above lines. It is so easy to add just one more duty, or one more pleasure to our daily lives, that the first thing we know there seems to be not enough hours in the day, or days in the week, to enable us to do all we have promised to do, not to speak of the things we would wish to do. Should the time come to us that we find an unoccupied hour, I think very many of us would think it wise to devote it to dying, lest another opportunity might not offer.

Speaking of busy and capable women we have an example in the person of Mrs. Mattie Hughes Cannon, the recently elected state senator of Utah. She has been a successful school teacher, printer and physician, and now has defeated her husband in the political race for the senatorship.

It is certainly hard for the husband, especially so because he being opposed to her in politics, she will not be able to use her influence to obtain an office for him to comfort him. As the colored preacher remarked, "The world do move."

When a handsome man visits the northeastern portion of Tartary the inhabitants kill him because he is good looking. They don't want his clothes or his money; they simply want his soul to remain among them.

I received this morning a letter from one who was at one time a correspondent of the Household. She wrote to inform me that she was to be married at Thanksgiving time, and that she was so very happy. Among other reasons she gave for her happiness was that her prospective husband was "so handsome that it is a pleasure just to look at him."

That is certainly something to be thankful for, as it would be a trial for this beauty lover, to be obliged to sit opposite a homely man three times a day, and it is to be hoped that this man's beauty is more than skin deep. Otherwise she may not always rejoice in his good looks, and may think of the Proverb, "Handsome is, as Handsome does."

At any rate, she is advised to keep him away from the eastern portion of Tartary.

Mrs. L. R. Crawford tells the friends how to make a pretty floor mat:

I take old stockings, of all colors, cut them in strips lengthwise and ravel them the long way, to a depth of three inches. Then sew them on a foundation of sacking, old carpet, or anything you please, allowing the fringe of one row to lap over the edge of the row above it. It makes a very pretty mat, and in a family when there are many feet to wear out the stockings, it does not take long to have material enough.

Our friend Esther Pareing has been a visiting, and that is the reason we have not had a call from her for so long a time. She visited in Eastern cities and at the sea-shore, where she was greatly impressed by the grandeur of scene. Some time, when she is fully rested and can do so, we should all be glad to have a description of some of the things she found interesting in the various places she visited.

"When we see how great the harvest and how few the laborers, we often feel that we must do more than our rightful share of the work; more than the grace and strength that has been given us for our daily needs will allow us to do, and then, when we fail, we doubt the sufficiency of His grace."

"I think we should feel that it is the Lord's harvest, not ours altogether, and that when we faithfully perform the share of the work He assigns to us, that is all we are held responsible for, and that we are, in a sense trespassing, when we attempt to do another's work."
—E. W. H.

Ruby says: I have two old-fashioned sugar bowls with handles on that would make nice flower-pots, only they are waite. Will some of the readers of The Blade tell me how I can decorate them so I can use them, and can there be a hole drilled in them for drainage?

Why not use them as they are? with some vine planted in them and drooping over the white sides of the bowl, the effect would be very pleasant. Another plant could also be placed in the bowl if desired.

Mrs. B. wishes a recipe for cheese straws. She will find it in the Cook's department.

Miss M. E. L. and others who have sent inquiries in regard to Miss Bouton's new book are informed that it will probably be ready for the Christmas trade. It will contain a picture of the author, that is considered an excellent likeness. Price of book will be $1 bound in cloth, and 50 cents in paper covers. All orders should be sent to the Arena Publishing Company, Boston, Mass., or to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O.

If our aim is right our acts cannot be evil. Now all acts are dead when done; it is in the heart that they are conceived and are already there done; the mere bodily carrying out of them is a dead thing in itself. So we may do a supposed good act and that shall outwardly appear good, and yet as our motive perhaps is wrong the act is naught, but the motive counts.—Letters That Have Helped Me.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

Jennie June asks for a reliable recipe for making pumpkin butter or marmalade. It is to be made of pumpkin or pumpkin and apple mixed, and spices.

The cook puts this inquiry at the head of this column so that it may be seen and answered soon, as there are one or two others who have asked for the same recipe.

Mrs. W. O. Newton sends the following in answer to a request for

Old Fashioned Apple Butter.

Cut, and core without paring, 2 bushels of apples, put in a large boiler with plenty of water and cook until soft, stirring often to prevent burning. When cool, rub the apples through a colander, and return the pulp to the clean kettle; add 26 lbs. granulated sugar, and let it all boil for six hours, stirring it almost constantly to prevent burning. It will by this time have become thick and rich, and when removed from the fire should have 2 tablespoonfuls of ground cinnamon added. This will make 8 gallons, and will keep in any covered jars.

In this recipe I use no cider and find that the butter is of equally good flavor as when this is used. Red apples give the finest coloring, and using the skins adds much to the delicacy of the flavor.

Cheese Straws (Requested.)

2 ozs. flour, 2 ozs. Butter, 2 ozs. grated cheese, 1 egg and a little salt. Make into a smooth paste, roll thin and cut into strips about 5 inches long and ¾ inch wide. Bake 15 minutes in a moderate oven. When cold, tie in little bunches with "baby" ribbon and serve with coffee or chocolate.

To serve cheese with salads, grate it over fresh butter crackers, place them in the oven till the cheese is melted.

Mrs. G. W. Dorland sends us a recipe for

Fancy Christmas Cakes.

Cream, 1½ cupfuls sugar and 3 tablespoonfuls of butter; add the beaten yelks of three eggs, the white of 1 egg, 1½ cupfuls of milk, 3 cupfuls flour, 3 teaspoonfuls baking powder and a little salt. Bake in patty-pans. When cool, remove a small piece of the top and fill with jelly, chocolate or cream filling. Replenish the piece removed and cover the top of the cake with frostiug.

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB

Is Increasing in Numbers and Popularity as the Weeks Glide By.

Two new members were admitted to the club this morning; one giving her name as "Mary" came from Kansas, and was recognized as a former valued contributor to this department.

The other introduces herself to the public as "M. E. R.," and is from Iowa. Both ladies brought satisfactory credentials in the form of fancy work suggestions, and were cordially welcomed.

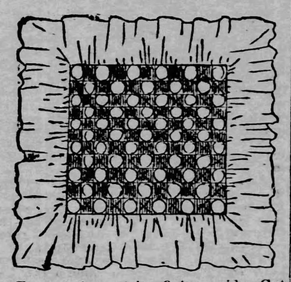
Any reader of The Blade who wishes to join the club will be sent full particulars, on the receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope by the Fancy Work editor, The Blade, Toledo, O.

M. E. R. brought with her a new idea for a

Sofa Pillow.

The materials required in making it are two and one-half yards of silkolene, 26 inches wide, and of any plain color preferred.

For the front of the pillow cut a square, 26 ins. each way; for the back cut a piece 12½ ins. square; for the



ruffle, cut four strips 9 ins. wide. Cut a lining 12½ ins. square for the front piece and gather the 26 ins. square piece around the edge so as to fit this lining and baste together.

Make the ruffle double and gather to fit the lining also, and baste to the front piece.

Take the 12½ ins. square for the back and lay on top of this keeping the ruffle inside, and sew all but one side together. On that side, sew the ruffle and front together, turn, insert the pillow and fasten the back.

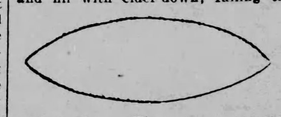
Over the full front, put a checkerboard of crochet squares; there are 6) squares, each made on a chain of 12 stitches in d. c. until square, and joined together.

This is drawn together very tightly and sewed to the cushion, where the ruffle joins it. Pull the silkolene up through the open squares to make little puffs.

This cushion being duly admired, suggested to Mrs. A. A. K., another member of the pillow tribe especially adapted to invalid's use, called a

Melon Pillow.

Cut a pattern like the illustration, making it 16 inches long and six inches wide. Cut six pieces each of silk and heavy cambric; line each silk piece with one of the cambric ones; sew together, and fill with eider-down; failing that,



with feathers. There are so many vacant places that a large pillow does not "fit," but a small soft one like this will fill and give all the support needed.

When the limbs are aching, if it is placed under the knees, the slight elevation will be found very restful.

Vercia Loack lent a little variety to the occasion by showing us a very pretty

Shaving-Paper Case.

It was made of two pretty picture cards three inches wide by five inches long, and was filled with sheets of white crepe paper of the same size.

A small hole was made in each upper corner, and through these was passed a narrow ribbon, ending in bows at each corner.

If preferred, different colored papers may be used, blue and white producing a very dainty effect.

Linger not too long in the thought of thy short-comings,
"For one look at self, take fifty at God."

The Joke Was on Mother.

There is a family over on the west side in which there are twins. They are five years old and resemble each other so marvelously that only the mother can tell which is Gladys and which is Grace.

On Saturday night just before bedtime the mother issued the order for baths. The older children took theirs, and along about 9 o'clock it was the turn of the twins. They were undressed and waiting.

The mother took Gladys into the bath room and gave her a thorough scrubbing. Then she allowed the mite to play in the water for a few moments, and after that put her on the rug, dried her, powdered her, and put her nightie on.

Just at this time the grocery boy came and the mother had to run downstairs and take charge of the provisions. After she had put everything away she came back, grabbed up a twin and took her to the bathroom. The little girl did not say much. After she was bathed, she scampered back to her bedroom.

There was a whispered consultation between the twins, and then they both began to laugh as loudly as they could.

"What are you youngsters laughing at?" asked the mother, as she came into the room.

"Nothing," they both protested between giggles.

"But ou are," insisted the mother. "Tell me this instant."

"Well," said Gladys, rolling about on the floor in merriment, "you gave me two baths and didn't give sister any."
—Buffalo Express.

Therefore perform thou that which thou hast to do, at all times unmindful of the event, for the man who doeth that which he hath to do without attachment to the result, obtained the Supereme.—Bhagavad-Gita.

Collecting Candlesticks.

The latest feminine fad is the collection of candlesticks. In furnishing artistic homes these certainly play an important part and they come especially designed for different rooms. One fair collector has some beautiful delft candlesticks, enameled and decorated in blue and white; three charming white Corinthian columns for the dining table and two of Doric design for the dresser; and for the toilet table a dozen lovely effects in Dresden ware. At each side of a small brass mirror in one corner of the parlor is a candle holder of wrought brass, and on the case of the upright piano are two chased silver sticks, with blue candles. In the bedrooms there are various odd designs in bronze, nickel, silver and copper, and the happy possessor of these owns also a quaint silver holder and a dumpy brass stick such as was used in the kitchen a generation ago.

For the Household.

THE HOUSE IN THE MEADOW.

A Pretty Story About a Childhood Memory.

"It stands in a sunny meadow,
The house so mossy and brown,
With its cumbrous old stone chimneys
And the gray roof sloping down.

The trees fold their green arms around it,
The trees a century old;
And the winds go chanting through them,
And the sunbeams drop their gold.

The cowslips spring in the marshes,
The roses bloom on the hill,
And beside the brook in the pasture,
The herds are feeding at will."
—Louise Chandler Moulton.

I never read the above lines without thinking of an old-fashioned house that stands in a sunny meadow far away. The house is built of split logs which are brown and mossgrown; the cumbrous old chimneys are made of stone and mortar; the sloping roof is gray from many years' exposure to sun and rain.

As we used to walk up the winding path to the old stone doorstep, the place seemed embowered in greenery. The grand old oak trees spread their arms protectingly about the brown walls, while the deep windows were overgrown by morning glories.

The sole resident of this picturesque place was a kindly old German lady, well-known to her neighbors as "Old Lady Lamka." Although this title seems to imply disrespect, there was no one in the community more respected than Mrs. Lamka. She was honest, industrious and frugal; her little farm in the meadow was generally acknowledged to be the thriftiest in the neighborhood. Indeed, this same thriftiness and independence (so her neighbors said) had caused her to dispense with the heavy conjugal, and dismiss her husband from her presence.

Her grown up sons and daughters were all married and settled in homes of their own, so it was rather lonely for the old lady. About once in five years, so it would seem, she found the solitude intolerable, and would call back her exiled spouse to her heart and home. Sad to relate, these reasons of connubial bliss were of short duration, and illustrated the old saying that "the beautiful things are the most perishable." When questioned in regard to her oft repeated separation from the partner of her joys and sorrows, she would respond with characteristic frankness that "Mistah Lamka always was a shiftless no 'count critter and matchally too lazy to breathe."

But whatever Mrs. Lamka's opinion of her husband might have been, she was very fond of children and they were frequent visitors at her home.

Memories remain with me yet of long dreamy afternoons spent beneath the rustling leaves of the giant oaks, where the sunlight shimmers through and flecks the turf with gold. There I would lie in a barrel stave hammock and read the wonderful tragedy of Bluebeard or a highly colored volume of German fairy tales which had once belonged to Mrs. Lamka's children.

One of my visits to the house in the meadow I remember especially, as it was a truant one, and I received a whipping for it afterwards. It happened in this wise: One cool, cloudy morning, my cousin and I (we were little folks then and in the primary room) were dawdling along the road toward school. We resisted all the temptations along the way until we arrived at Mrs. Lamka's pasture gate. Here we paused, and I said coaxingly: "Le's take a short cut through de Mis Lamka's pasture." My cousin agreed and we crawled between the bars and went scampering through the long, wet grass. The marshes were yellow with cowslips. Here we loitered and gathered great handfuls. In the distance we heard the faint tinkle of a cowbell. As we pushed our way through the undergrowth we came suddenly in sight of the herd, grazing peacefully by the brookside. We splashed recklessly through the water, and climbed the hill on the other side, tearing our dresses on the rose briars as we went. Down the opposite hillside we ran pell mell (naughty little truants that we were) into the patch of sweet corn in Mrs. Lamka's back yard.

The tall green stalks were far above our heads and a shower of dew rained in our faces as we brushed through. Once I caught sight of a flaming poppy between the rows. I remember the childish delight with which I siezed it, and my disappointment when the dewy petals dropped at my feet. I had not yet learned that "Poppies are like pleasures spread, etc.," but I think I fully realized it an hour or so later when I found myself in the clutches of an irate schoolma-am.

As we went up the back steps the school bell sounded on our unheeding ears. Mrs. Lamka welcomed us at the door and entertained us right royally with corn dodgers and coffee. We ate, drank and were merry and thought not of the wrath to come.

The minutes slipped away until even we became cognizant of the flight of time. Then Mrs. Lamka gave us a cookie apiece and waved us good-bys from the doorway. Dear old lady! I can see her yet as she stood there in her wooden shoes and short skirts with a faded bandanna tied under her chin, with lagging feet and foreboding hearts, we turned our steps schoolward.
—DAPHANE.

You cannot do wrong without suffering wrong.—Emerson.

A FUNNY STORY.

Telling of an Eclipse of the Honeymoon.

When I went to see the little bride the other day and found her weeping into her best Turkish sofa cushion, I knew that something was seriously wrong, and drew my face down into the proper expression of sympathy.

"What is it?" I asked.

"It's Tom," she said.

"And breakfast," I amended.

"Did he tell you?" she demanded, sternly, sitting up and wiping her eyes.

"Surely not," I answered; "only you see, my dear Annette, you are not the first bride I have had the pleasure of knowing in the course of my life."

"I never claimed to be a good housekeeper or know anything about cooking," she began in an explanatory fashion.

"And he said that he wanted that little hand never to do anything harder than play with flowers or soothe his fevered brow," I added.

"Why, how did you know he said that?" she asked.

I smiled.

"If he was looking for a good domestic girl, why didn't he marry Mary Smith?" she said, recurring again to her woes.

"Why not, indeed?" I echoed.

"She's hideous," announced Annette, with satisfaction.

"She would never put too much soda in the biscuit or have the steak overdone," I said reflectively.

"She has red hair," remarked Annette, irrelevantly.

"The butcher would never be able to sell tough meat and undesirable cuts to her." I went on in an admiring tone of voice.

"She has light eyes and no eyebrows to speak of," said Annette, as if it were a matter of importance.

"She would have made pies like his mother used to make," I continued.

"She has pale green freckles," remarked Annette, triumphantly.

"Of what avail," I asked mournfully, "is beauty when one has dyspepsia from bad cooking?"

"Why didn't he ask me if I could cook before we were married?" demanded Annette, resentfully.

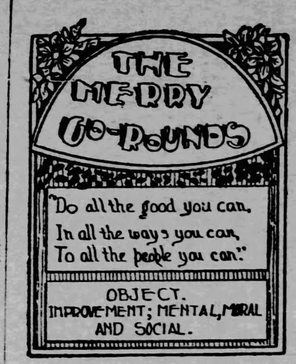
"My dear child," I said, "men always demand everything in a wife they didn't ask for in a sweetheart."

"He used to laugh when I didn't know things, and say I was a darling little puss," she remarked, reflectively.

"Now he thinks you are stupid if you don't know about the silver question and whether the insurgents are going to win in Cuba," I put in.

"What does it mean?" she asked, with a tremble in her voice.

"It means," I said, "that you have married a man instead of an archangel. You needn't cry about it," I added, brutally; "you probably wouldn't have found an angel very congenial, but, you have got to come down to a realization that the man who told you that he would make your life a dream of bliss, filled with light and perfume, has forgotten he ever said it, and expects you to forget. Furthermore, he wants his dinner on time, and his house to be as well and economically managed as if he had married Mary Smith or any other of the domestic and homely girls he never looked at."



Question for November: What are the four most necessary qualifications requisite for a successful and satisfactory business career?

Several very good answers to the November question have already been received, and Miss Prudence hopes to hear from many others, especially those who are old enough to think of a business career for themselves.

Three new members are introduced this week: Lillie, from Pa.; Country Rose, from N. Y., and Takigrafer, who brings his peculiar name from Nebraska. All are welcome.

The state president for Nebraska is Mr. S. S. Kaufman, Gothenburg, Neb.

A Country Rose asks for some suggestions from the M. G. Rs., which Miss Prudence hopes will be sent very soon:

My home is in a pleasant little country village, and during the long winter evenings we young people meet for social times. As we do not care to either dance or play cards, it is often hard for us to find something for entertainment. I wonder if some of the Merry-Go-Rounds will come to my aid by giving me some of their ideas. I want to entertain some of my young friends soon, and I am at a loss to find something new.

Takigrafer gives this good reason for his coming:

As I have received much instruction and entertainment from the M. G. R. column, would like to become a member so as to be able to contribute my "mite" in return. I chose my "nom" from the system of shorthand which I write. Wonder if any of the circle use the same?

Lillie, Pa., wears the silver ring, and asks if others of the M. G. Rs. do, and can truthfully say the words indicated by the letters I. H. N.

Forest, W. Va.:—Has some very sound ideas on the subject of teaching, if we may judge by this letter:

I have heard various theories advanced on the art of teaching, but the most of them fail when applied to our country and village schools. If we wish to make a success of teaching we must apply principles of our own that suit the conditions of the school. Close attention to our profession, and practical experience give us ideas of teaching that are far in advance of the theories we obtain from our common teachers' institutes.

Photographer, Kas:—Writes some very pleasant words to Miss Prudence, for which she thanks him, and also for the inclosure with his letter. Your letters are written in proper form, Photographer, and the description which you mention would be acceptable, if not too long:

My badge was the result of hard work therefore I highly appreciate it. I will express myself stronger than Pussy did, for I think we should all wear our badge. I would little think of seeing Miss Prudence without her badge on—and the same is applicable to every member.

M. L. Callahan will also accept thanks from the Chaperone for her kind and encouraging words, they are a lovely Thanksgiving offering and are fully appreciated. You must have some amusing experiences with your little "Swedes," cannot you send us some of them? The experiences, not the Swedes.

Architect:—Has been so occupied with "school and sickness" that he has been obliged to absent himself from this pleasant company, but steps in today long enough to thank "Pussy" for the complimentary remarks in regard to his (architect's) name and to express his belief that every one is the architect of his own fate and in proof quotes this: "To live for common ends is to be common: The highest faith makes still the highest man."

If Architect will send a specimen of his work to The Blade Wonder Column, and it is accepted, he will be considered a member of that wise body of men and women who make it one of the most interesting departments of the paper.

Lectern, Kas:—Is attending school nine miles from his home and goes home every Saturday to see her folks and to read the M. G. R. letters. So you must all make an effort to have something very good for her to read.

Old Bach:—Explains his long absence by saying that he has been preparing for winter. He tells of the "apple picking" in his neighborhood and says that "the apples hung like grapes and nearly every tree had to be propped, to keep them from breaking down under their loads of the luscious fruit." He tells us that a lake was discovered this summer about sixteen miles from his home, and that it may become a pleasure resort some time."

In that case, when the M. G. R's., visit it, they will, doubtless call to pay their respects to Old Bach. He closes his letter with this sentence: "Even N. E. girl may excel in pen pictures, by practice." If you could but see some of her "pen pictures" that Miss Prudence has been favored with, you wouldn't think that she had already attained great excellence.

Inda, Mich:—Sends in a private letter a sad little story of a Thanksgiving experience, which Miss Prudence is glad to know was not a personal experience for Inda. She sends a friendly greeting to Jew Green Mountain boy and all others of the M. G. R.'s, not omitting some very kind words to the Chaperone for which she will please accept thanks.

Kommershal Rasho explains that he "come by" his nom by signing it to some articles he wrote in favor of bimetallism, but does not explain why he chose this manner of spelling his words, when the articles would have been just as valuable if the words had been spelled correctly. Here is his message to the M. G. R's:

I wish to say to Wanda, Va., our ladies here study and talk politics and vote too. And they not only increase their wisdom and benefit themselves by so doing, but they make themselves better associates, better wives and better mothers. What sort of a companion would a lady make who knows nothing of the science of civil government? She could not intelligently advise and instruct her children. Out here, the science of civil government is taught in our common schools. And all school ma'ams are required to pass a satisfactory examination in that branch—which is commonly called politics.

Household Pet writes that she lives in the northern part of Vermont and is an old maid. She advises Green Mountain Boy not to be an old bachelor, because, she reasons, "if there were not so many bachelors some of the girls would be more likely to get married."—True.

The requirements for membership in the M. G. R., is that some member of your family is a subscriber to The Blade for the current year; that you endeavor to live up to the mottoes of the order at all times and help to make the department interesting by writing on subjects of general interest. There are no dues or fines. The badge is of solid silver and costs 50 cents, it can be obtained only at this office. Letters must be written with ink; on one side only of your paper and signed with your full name and address, as well as the name you wish published. No slang, poor spelling or personal matter is allowed in these letters. Addresses for private correspondence will be sent to members upon receipt by the editor of a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Every one receiving these addresses is placed upon their honor to use them solely for friendly correspondence.

One lesson, Nature, let me learn of thee.
One lesson which in every wind is blown,
One lesson of two duties kept at one.
Though the loud world proclaim their enmity.

Too Much System.

"There is too much system in this school business," growled Tommy. "Just because I snickered a little the monitor turned me over to the teacher, the teacher turned me over to the principal, and the principal turned me over to paw."

"Was that all?"

"No. Paw turned me over his knee."
—Indianapolis Journal.

THE DOG UNDER THE WAGON.

"Come wife," said good old farmer Gray,
"Put on your things, 'tis market day,
And we'll be off to the nearest town,
There and back ere the sun goes down."
Spot? No, we'll leave old Spot behind,
But Spot he barked and Spot he whined,
And soon made up his doggish mind
To follow under the wagon.

Away they went at a good round pace,
And joy came into the farmer's face,
"Poor Spot," said he, "did want to come,

But I'm awful glad he's left at home—
He'll guard the barn, and guard the cot,
And keep the cattle out of the lot."
'I'm not so sure of that, thought Spot,
The dog under the wagon.

The farmer all his produce sold
And got his pay in yellow gold:
Home through the lovely forest, Hark!
A robber springs from behind a tree:
"Your money or else your life," says he;
The moon was up, but he didn't see
The dog under the wagon.

Spot ne'er barked and Spot ne'er whined
But quickly caught the thief behind:
He dragged him down in the mire and dirt,
And tore his coat and tore his shirt,
Then held him fast on the miry ground;
The robber uttered not a sound,
While his hands and feet the farmer bound,
And tumbled him into the wagon.

So Spot he saved the farmer's life,
The farmer's money, the farmer's wife,
And now a hero grand and gay,
A silver collar he wears to-day:
Among his friends, among his foes—
And everywhere, his master goes—
He follows on his horny toes,
The dog under the wagon.
—The Advance.

M. G. R. EXPERIENCE MEETING.

"Do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can."

Though there was a general invitation given to all M. G. R.'s to take part in this meeting, only a "baker's dozen" availed themselves of the opportunity, and Miss Prudence addressed them as follows:

Among the letters I have received, was one giving an account of a young woman who for several years has been confined to her bed for the greater part of every day, having much of the time to lie face downward, owing to her inability to lie upon her sides or back except for a very short period.

Under these distressing circumstances she has kept herself informed concerning current events at home and abroad by reading the newspapers; has written many personal letters, and helped push the M. G. R. and O. W. C. whenever she was able; nearly all this work being done, remember, while lying in a most uncomfortable position, and as she can only think or write a little at a time, it has taken her two or three days oftentimes to compose and write one letter!

She has tried to avoid the use of slang or ungrammatical expressions in her conversation, and has made the Golden Rule her motto; trying at all times to do to others as she would have them do to her, not merely because she is a Merry Go Rounder, but because it is right!

She has done what she could to make others happy by not complaining of her own troubles, but talking about what ever interests those about her, and though she is always in more or less pain, has spoken few cross or impatient words during the year.

Her greatest triumph, however, has been the successful effort she has made to overcome her feeling of bitterness toward the one who, through neglect of duty, was chiefly instrumental in bringing this suffering upon her.

The proof that she has done so, is contained in the closing paragraph of her letter:

"Recently the thought has come to me, that my suffering may not have been in vain, for my case may serve as an example to save some other poor woman from sharing the same fate.

"If this could be, I am glad it has been, as it is, even though it costs my life."

Marry Go Rounders, this letter was not written for the prize; a second one came with it, detailing the heroism and self-sacrifice of a woman for the sake of her invalid husband and family of children; but the personal letter, intended only for my eyes, revealed, between the lines, such a story of patient endurance, courageous effort, and unselfish, unconscious heroism, a willingness to lay down life itself if thereby some other might be cured, that I awarded the first prize to the writer, feeling sure that the others who have sent their experience, will agree that it was well bestowed.

The second prize was awarded to one of my girls who has evidently "done what she could" in a homely, practical way. She wrote:

"You will find my experience a very poor one, for I have not been keeping our motto as I should; but what I have done was with willing heart and hands.

"Our order has helped me, more than I have helped others, and my 'one talent' is so rusty, I am ashamed to bring it before you.

"With our motto in mind, however, I have been permitted to do a little good; I have done the greater part of the sewing for six motherless children; have laid aside my own work in order to care for my neighbor's children, giving the parents a chance to visit friends, and have gone two miles to write some letters for an old lady."

Little things in themselves, to be sure, but each involving an amount of self-sacrifice that is best understood by the one who makes it.

Regulator, O., sent a straight-forward, manly letter, saying that during the past year he had often been prompted by the recollection of our motto, to do little acts of kindness that he might otherwise have left undone.

W. Virginian, W. Va., sent evidence of much mental improvement, having made a study of the civil government of the United States and West Virginia besides reading Paradise Lost and David Copperfield. He closed his letter by saying:

"When I look back over the past summer, I realize that I have done but little towards improvement, yet I feel that without that little, I would be much worse off."

Inda, Mich.:—In caring for her sick neighbors has done well; but, giving her the credit for that, I must set her another task for the coming year.

Find out the good in that seemly selfish community, Inda; it is there, depend upon it.

If the things that interest you seem to fall flat with them, try another tack. If you are a step in advance, by reason of "always trying to be somebody," you have that much more responsibility.

Brunette, Tenn., closed a pleasantly well-written letter by saying: "I know that I have given up little in comparison with what many have done; yet each day I sacrifice my dearest hope, the desire for a more complete education, which my environments make an impossibility."

Nellie Inman, Arkansas, told the story of a dear old lady whose life of poverty has been enriched by her many self-sacrificing, helpful deeds for those who were po

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give clear, concise events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

THE NEW GUNBOATS.

Commodore Perry's Lovely Descendant to Christen the Newport.

Bath, Me., Dec. 5.—The launching today of the gunboat Newport will have an historical connection with one of America's leading naval heroes, Commodore Perry. The oldest unmarried great-granddaughter of the victor of Lake Erie is Miss La Farge, the accomplished and lovely daughter of John La Farge, the well known artist of New York City.

Mayor Boyle, of Newport, R. I., hit on the happy idea of securing Miss La Farge to christen the warship that was to bear the name of his town, and as the young lady has graciously consented, some of the prowess of the great commodore may pass into the sturdy timbers of the gunboat from the delicate white hand that will break the bottle over the prow. Miss La Farge has a connection with Newport through her mother who was the daughter of Christopher Perry, the oldest son of the Commodore, and a resident of Newport for years.

The Newport is built much on the same lines as the Helena, which was constructed in 1894 and has a displacement of 1,392 tons, a speed of 13 knots and a horse-power of 1,600 and cost between a quarter and a half million.

In conjunction with the launching of the gunboat Newport here to-day, The Vicksburg, a boat of the same class, will also be wedded to the sea. She will be christened by Miss Addie Trowbridge, daughter of the mayor of Vicksburg, Miss.

Description of the Boats.

The gunboats Vicksburg and Newport are vessels of entirely new type, so far as our navy is concerned, in that they are of composite construction, all of the framing being of steel, but planks of Georgia pine being worked on the frames below the water line, secured by composition bolts in such manner as to prevent galvanic action and being then covered with copper. This will make the vessels largely independent of docking facilities and economical in the use of fuel, as the expoliation of the copper causes the barnacles and seagrass to fall off as soon as the ship moves, thus keeping her bottom clean, and insuring the maintenance of full

MISS LA FARGE.

speed with minimum coal consumption. Another feature of these vessels that distinguishes them from other naval ships is the use of full sail power in addition to steam. They will be rigged as barkentines, and will be able to sail twelve knots an hour without using their engines, so that they will prove most economical cruisers for foreign stations. The Vicksburg and Newport are sister ships of 1,000 tons displacement, drawing 12 feet of water, 168 feet long by 36 feet beam, and will cost $229,400 each.

SILVER ISSUE DEAD.

Boies Throws a Bomb Into the Popocrats.

Waterloo, Ia., Dec. 2.—Farmer Boies has gone back on the free silver issue, and declares the issue of the future is not "16 to 1," but is the question of the issuance of the paper currency of the country.

The Popocrats of this district held a consolation meeting Monday night in this city. The affair was treated in a semi-humorous manner, but it was in reality the intention of the managers that it should be a reorganization of the free silver clubs of this vicinity for the campaign of next year.

Boies was announced as the presiding officer, but in a letter received from him he stated he could not come. However, he stated his position in regard to the future in the following words:

"The issue of the future is already clearly presented. It is no longer a question of whether we shall have free coinage at 16 to 1, but it is the broader question of whether the nation is to be tied to a gold standard and receive its paper currency through the instrumentality and at the will of private corporations, or have for its use a national currency based upon gold and silver alike, and controlled by the government instead of by syndicates and combinations. We must prepare for the broader issue. The time to begin is now, and the way to begin is to organize."

This expression by the ex-Presidential candidate was not exactly to the liking of the managers, and the letter was not read from the stage.

A MONOPOLY SMASHED.

Wire Nail Trust Formally Decides to Dissolve.

New York, Dec. 2.—At a meeting of the Wire Nail Manufacturers' Association held at the Waldorf Hotel yesterday it was voted to dissolve the organization.

John H. Parks, treasurer, said that its affairs would be wound up at once. A new card of "extras" was adopted by the manufacturers in order to conform, so far as possible, to the desires of the retail trade. The nail association, he said, had been operating since June, 1895. It had lived much longer than its most sanguine promoters expected, and as a financial undertaking had been an unprecedented success. It had attracted world-wide attention and admiration in commercial circles, as a co-operative organization, owing to its exceptional efficiency and comprehensiveness.

"Its present abandonment," said Mr. Parks, "is not due to any adventitious conditions in the organization, or to any internal differences or shortcomings, but solely to the large growth of outside competition which has sprung up within the last few months."

AIRSHIP A PURE FAKE.

Practical Jokers Responsible for the Strange Sight in California.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 5.—Lieutenant Wallentioned at San Francisco, has written to a friend in Iowa the following regarding the widely published story of a successful airship which was constructed near Sacramento and repeatedly seen in California skies:

"You can put the whole matter down as a fake pure and simple. Some wag started the story here, and the papers took it up. Then a lot of other wags began to send up fire balloons from different points in this vicinity, and apparently all of the denizens of neighboring towns turned out for several successive nights looking at the stars or anything else in the heavens that showed a light. If a successful airship puts in an appearance in the United States you can look for it to come from either Professor Langley of the Smithsonian institution or Hiram Maxim of New York."

THE X RAYS.

Admitted as Secondary Evidence in a Colorado Court.

Denver, Col., Dec. 4.—Judge Lefevre has given a decision in the District Court admitting Roentgen ray photographs as secondary evidence that may be shown to the jury in illustrating the testimony of experts. The decision was given in the trial of the suit of James Smith against Dr. W. W. Grant for alleged malpractice in his treatment of fractured hip.

THE MESSAGE.

CLEVELAND'S FAREWELL TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Nothing That Need Create Controversy in Any of the Recommendations Which He Makes.

The President's message contains about 16,000 words. This would make a page and a third of The Blade, if set in the smallest sized type used in the paper. Very few people would take the trouble to wade through this mass of verbiage; yet every one wants to know what the recommendations of Mr. Cleveland are, therefore The Blade presents an abstract of the document, giving the President's language on matters of importance, and indicating in brief the tenor of the document on minor points.

To the Congress of the United States:

As representatives of the people in the legislative branch of their government, you have assembled at a time when the strength and excellence of our free institutions and the fitness of our citizens to enjoy popular rule have been again made manifest. A political contest, involving momentous consequences, fraught with feverish apprehension and creating aggressiveness so intense as to approach bitterness and passion, has been waged through our land, and determined by the decree of free and independent suffrage, without disturbance of our tranquility or the least sign of weakness in our national structure.

When we consider these incidents and contemplate the peaceful obedience and manly submission which have succeeded a heated clash of political opinions, we discover abundant evidence of a determination on the part of our countrymen to abide by every verdict of the popular will and to be controlled at all times by an abiding faith in the agencies established for the direction of the affairs of their government.

Thus our people exhibit a patriotic disposition which entitles them to demand of those who undertake to make and execute their laws such faithful and unselfish service in their behalf as can only be prompted by a serious appreciation of the trust and confidence which the acceptance of public duty invites.

ARMENIAN OUTRAGES.

Present Prospect Will Not Long Be Permitted.

The President then expresses his regret at the unimproved condition of affairs in Turkey. While he says no citizens of the United States in Turkey have thus far been killed or wounded, their safety in future is by no means assured. Efforts have not been stayed and will not be by the government, or the United States minister at Constantinople, to protect our missionaries on Ottoman territory.

"But," says the President, "the deep feeling and sympathy that have been aroused among our people ought not to so far blind their reason and judgment as to lead them to demand impossible things."

An adequate force for protection would, he adds, be resented by both Turkey and the powers. Nothing will be omitted to bring about the prompt settlement of the claims for destruction of missionary property at Harpoot and Marash. Hope is expressed that no obstacle will in future be interposed to prevent the escape from Turkey of all those who seek to avoid the perils which threaten there and the present somber prospect in Turkey will not long be permitted to offend the sight of Christendom.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Little Said to Give Assurance to Spain or Cuba.

Considerable space is given to Cuba. The President finds it difficult to perceive that any progress has thus far been made toward the pacification of the island. Notwithstanding Spain's strengthened determination to put down the insurrection, "there is much reason to believe that the insurgents have gained in point of numbers and character and resources, and are none the less inflexible in their resolve not to succumb, without practically securing the great objects for which they took up arms. If Spain has not yet re-established her authority, neither have the insurgents yet made good their title to be regarded as an independent state.

"The only civil government maintained is that by Spain, more or less imperfectly, in the large towns and their immediate suburbs.

"It is reported, indeed," the President proceeds, "on reliable authority, that at the demand of the commander-in-chief of the insurgent army, the putative Cuban government has now given up all attempt to exercise its functions, leaving that government confessedly (what there is the best reason for supposing it always to have been in fact), a government merely on paper."

Arguing from the inability of the Spanish troops to bring about a pitched battle, the President points out that there is hardly a limit to the time hostilities may be prolonged, and the Spanish authorities seem to have imitated the insurgents in a policy of wholesale annihilation of property that it may not be used by their opponents. At least from $30,000,000 to $50,000,000 of American capital are invested in the island, and there is an immense trade between the United States and the island. Besides Cuban residents in this country, many of them naturalized, promote insurrection by means which the laws and the spirit of our institutions cannot reach and American citizens express their sympathy in many substantial ways, thus necessitating constant claims by this country for protection of its citizens and for damages, now estimated at many millions. The demands made for according belligerent rights to the insurgents, the recognition of their independence, the purchase by the United States of the island, or the intervention of the United States to end the strife, even at the cost of war with Spain, are all dismissed by the President. The restraint and patient endurance of the United States of conditions in Cuba are pointed out, as well as the respect and regard for Spain thus manifested by the American people.

The President Suggests.

Finally, the President suggests: "It would seem that if Spain should offer to Cuba genuine autonomy—a measure of home rule, practicable and preserving the sovereignty of Spain, would satisfy all rational requirements of her Spanish subjects—there would be no just reason why the pacification of the island might not be effected on that basis. Such a result would appear to be in the true interest of all concerned. It would at once stop the conflict which is now consuming the resources of the island and making it worthless for whichever party may ultimately prevail. It would keep intact the possessions of Spain without touching her honor, which will be consulted rather than impugned by the adequate redress of admitted grievances. It would put the prosperity of the island and the fortunes of its inhabitants within their own control without severing the natural and ancient ties which bind them to the mother country, and would yet enable them to test their capacity for self-government under the most favorable conditions. If has been objected on the one side that Spain should not promise autonomy until her insurgent subjects lay down their arms; on the other side, that the promised autonomy, however liberal, is insufficient, because without assurance of promise being fulfilled.

"But the reasonableness of a requirement by Spain, of an unconditional surrender on the part of the insurgent Cubans before their autonomy is conceded, it is not altogether apparent. It ignores important features of the situation—the stability two years duration has given to the insurrection; the feasibility of its indefinite prolongation in the nature of things, and as shown by past experience; the utter and imminent ruin of the island, unless the present strife is speedily composed; above all, the rank abuses which all parties in Spain, all branches of her government, and all her leading public men concede to exist and profess a desire to remove. Facing such circumstances, to withhold the proffer of needed reforms until the parties demanding them put themselves at their mercy by throwing down their arms, has the appearance of neglecting the gravest of perils and inviting suspicion as to the sincerity of the professed willingness to grant reforms. The objection on behalf of the insurgents—that promised reforms can not be relied upon—must, of course, be considered, though we have no right to assume, and no reason for assuming that anything Spain undertakes to do for the relief of Cuba will not be done according to both the spirit and the letter of the undertaking."

Spain's Obligation.

The President depreciates any assumption that Spain would evade any obligation she undertook towards the insurgents, but realizing that suspicion and precaution on the part of the weaker party are natural, "it was intimated by this government to the government of Spain some months ago, that if a satisfactory measure of home rule were tendered to the Cuban insurgents, and would be accepted by them upon a guarantee of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find a way not objectionable to Spain, of furnishing such guarantee. While no definite response to this intimation has yet been received from the Spanish government, it is believed to be not altogether unwelcome, while, as already suggested, no reason is perceived why it should not be approved by the insurgents."

The friendly offices of the United States, he says, in this or any other way, are at the disposal of either party, and we should object to the acquisition of the island, or an interference with its control by any other nation.

"It should be added that it cannot be reasonably assumed that the hitherto expressed offer of the United States would be indefinitely maintained. While we are anxious to accord all due respect to the sovereignty of Spain, we cannot view the present conflict in all its features and properly append our inevitable close relations to it and its possible results, without considering that by the course of events we may be drawn into such an unusual and unprecedented condition as will fix a limit to our patient waiting for Spain to end the contest, either alone and in her own way, or with our friendly co-operation.

Duty of This Country.

"When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurgents has become manifest, and it has demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba for all purposes of its rightful existence, and when a hopeless struggle for its reestablishment has degenerated into a strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life, and the utter destruction of the subject matter of the conflict, the matter will be presented in which our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superceded by higher obligations, which we can hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge. Deferring the choice of ways and means, of methods, until the time for action arrives, we should make them depend upon the precise conditions then existing; and they should not be determined upon without giving careful heed to every consideration involving our honor and interest, or the international duty we owe to Spain. Until we face the contingencies suggested, or the situation is by other incidents imperatively changed, we should continue in the line of conduct heretofore pursued, thus giving all circumstances exhibiting our obedience to the requirements of the public law and our regard for the duty enjoined upon us by the position we occupy in the family of nations."

VENEZUELAN BOUNDARY.

General Arbitration Treaty With England Promised.

The closing of the Venezuelan question, and the far advance with promises of an early successful consummation of negotiations for a general arbitration treaty with Great Britain, are briefly noted. Hope of co-operation with Great Britain for the better preservation of seal life in Bering sea is expressed.

The statistics from the treasury department, including those of the revenues, are submitted without comment or recommendation. The same is true of statistics of immigration.

The progress in coast defense is alluded to as the one form of military preparation essentially pacific in its nature. Summaries of the reports of the attorney general and the postmaster general are included. The post office deficit due to "carrying at the nominal rate of one cent a pound the serial libraries, sometimes including trashy and even harmful literature, and other matter which under the loose interpretation of a loose statute has been gradually given second class rates," is pointed out as an abuse that should be corrected. An adequate appropriation for the entertainment of the International Postal Union Congress in Washington is recommended.

In affairs of the navy and interior departments, there is nothing in the message not contained in the reports of the secretaries.

As to Pensions.

Of the pension commissioner's report, the President says:

"In my opinion, based upon such statements as these and much other information and observation, the abuses which have been allowed to creep into our pension system have done incalculable harm in demoralizing our people and undermining good citizenship."

The President urges the importance of an adjustment of Pacific railroad obligations. Of the case of the Union Pacific, he points out that the proceedings to foreclose a first mortgage upon added parts of the main line, to which the government lien is subordinate and the default occurring on January 1, 1897, must emphasize the mandate of the act of 1887 to foreclose.

"Therefore, unless Congress shall otherwise direct, or shall have previously determined upon a different solution of the problem, there will hardly appear to exist any reason for delaying beyond the date of the default above mentioned such executive action as will promise to subserve the public interests and save the government from the loss threatened by further inaction."

Agriculture.

The work done by the Agricultural Department is especially commended, but the discontinuance of the gratuitous distribution of seeds is urged.

The progress of civil service reform for the year is reviewed as a cause for the utmost congratulation. The amendment of the interstate commerce act is recommended.

THE PRESENT TARIFF.

Its Failings Admitted and Yet It Is Praised.

Recurring again to the statistics of the Treasury Department the President offers some suggestions regarding the present tariff law and its operation. He says:

"Whatever may be its shortcoming as a short measure of tariff reform, it must be conceded that it has opened the way to a freer and greater exchange of commodities between us and other countries, and thus furnished a wider market for our products and manufactures."

Continuing, the President says: "I believe our present tariff law, if allowed a fair opportunity, will in the near future include a revenue, which with reasonable economic expenditures will overcome all deficiencies. In the meantime no deficit that has occurred or may occur need excite or disturb us. To meet any such deficit we have in the Treasury, in addition to a gold reserve of $100,000,000, a surplus of more than $128,000,000, applicable to the payment of the expenses of the government, and which must, unless expended for that purpose, remain a useless hoard or, if not extravagantly wasted, must in any event be perverted from the purposes of its exaction from our people. The payment, therefore, of any deficiency in the revenue from this fund, is nothing more than its proper and legitimate use. The government thus applying a surplus fortunately in its Treasury to the payment of expenses not met by its current revenues, is not at all to be likened to a man living beyond his income and thus incurring debt or encroaching upon his principal."

QUESTION OF FINANCE.

Recommendation Renewed of Retirement of Greenbacks.

The President renews his former recommendation for the retirement of the greenbacks.

"I am more convinced than ever that we can have no assured financial peace and safety until the government's obligations on which gold may be demanded from the Treasury are withdrawn from circulation and cancelled. This might be done, as has been heretofore recommended, by their exchange for long time bonds bearing a low rate of interest, or by their redemption with the proceeds of such bonds. Even if only the United States notes, known as greenbacks, were thus retired, it is probable that the Treasury notes issued in payment of silver purchases under the act of July 14, 1890, now paid in gold when demanded, would not create much disturbance, as they might from time to time when received in the Treasury Department by redemption in gold or otherwise be gradually and prudently replaced by silver coin.

"This plan of issuing bonds for the purpose of redemption certainly appears to be the most effective and direct path to the needed reform. In default of this, however, it would be a step in the right direction if currency obligations redeemable in gold when so redeemed should be cancelled instead of being reissued. This operation would be a slow remedy, but it would improve present conditions.

"National banks should redeem their own notes. They should be allowed to issue circulation to the par value of bonds deposited as security for its redemption, and the tax on their circulation should be reduced to one-fourth of 1 per cent."

As to Trusts.

The message concludes as follows:

"Another topic in which our people rightfully take a deep interest may be here briefly considered. I refer to the existence of trusts and other huge aggregations of capital, the object of which is to secure the monopoly of some particular branch of trade, industry, or commerce and to stifle wholesome competition. When these are defended, it is usually on the ground that though they increase profits, they also reduce prices and thus benefit the public.

"It must be remembered, however, that a reduction of prices to the people is not one of the real objects of these organizations, nor is their tendency necessarily in that direction. If it occurs in a particular case, it is only because it accords with the purposes or interests of those managing the scheme.

"Such occasional results fall far short in compensating the palpable evils charged to the account of trusts and monopolies. Their tendency is to crush out individual independence and to hinder or prevent the free use of human faculties and the full development of human character. Through them, the farmer, the artisan and the small trader is in danger of dislodgment from the proud position of being his own master, watchful of all that touches his country's prosperity, in which he has an individual lot, and interested in all that affects the advantages of business of which he is a factor, to be relegated to the level of a mere appurtenance to a great machine, with little free will, with no duty but that of passive obedience, and with little hope of opportunity of rising in the scale of responsible and helpful citizenship.

"To the instinctive relief that such is the inevitable trend of trusts and monopolies is due the widespread and deep seated popular aversion in which they are held, and the not unreasonable insistence that whatever may be their incidental economic advantages, their general effect, upon personal character, prospects and usefulness cannot be otherwise than injurious.

Present Laws Ineffective.

"Though Congress has attempted to deal with this matter by legislation, the laws passed for that purpose thus far have proved ineffective, not because of any lack of disposition or attempt to enforce them, but simply because the laws themselves as interpret by the courts do not reach the difficulty.

"If the insufficiencies of existing laws can be remedied by further legislation, it should be done. The fact must be recognized, however, that all federal legislation on this subject may fail short of its purpose by inherent obstacles and because of the complex character of our governmental system, which, while making the federal authority supreme within its sphere, has carefully limited that sphere by metes and bounds which cannot be transgressed. The decision of our highest court on this precisequestion renders it quite doubtful whether the evils of trusts and monopolies can be adequately treated through federal action unless they seek directly and purposely to include in their objects, transportation or intercourse between states or between the United States and foreign countries.

"It does not follow, however, that this is the limit of the remedy that may be applied. Even though it may be found that federal authority is not broad enough to fully reach the case, there can be no doubt of the power of the several states to act effectively in the premises, and there should be no reason to doubt their willingness to judiciously exercise such power.

"In concluding this communication, its last words shall be an appeal to the congress for the most rigid economy in the expenditure of the money it holds in trust for the people. The way to perplexing extravagance is easy, but a return to frugality is difficult. When, however, it is considered that those who bear the burdens of taxation have no guaranty of honest care save in the fidelity of their public servants, the duty of all possible retrenchment is plainly manifest.

"When our differences are forgotten, and our contests of political opinion are no longer remembered, nothing in the retrospect of our public service will be as fortunate and comforting as the recollection of official duty well performed and the memory of a constant devotion to the interests of our confiding fellow countrymen.

"GROVER CLEVELAND."

FUNNY SCHEME.

Kansas Men Propose to Have All Offices Filled by Rich Men.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 5.—J. H. Lehman, a retired merchant of Osage City, has evolved a scheme to keep the free silver movement boomig in Kansas that has met with hearty response from scores of Populists who are not hunting offices. Lehman proposes that the governor-elect confine his appointments to men who are able to donate their salaries to the cause of free silver in the establishment of public reading-rooms in all the towns of the state, the dissemination of Populist literature and in paying the expenses of free silver lecturers.

As eager as are the Populists for office many of them favor this scheme, not only because it would keep the issue prominently before the people, but for the reason that it would bring to the service of the state a better class of men and sheive the great crowd of office hunters that is now making life a burden to the new governor.

Lehman says there are enough men of wealth and leisure in the new party to fill most of the appointive offices without pay, and that a fund of $100,000 annually could be thus raised to push the free silver agitation in the state and other reforms advocated by the Populist party.

It is stated that this scheme was laid before William J. Bryan and that he gave it his hearty indorsement. Governor-elect Leedy declines to discuss it.

USELESS WAR SHIPS.

It Would Not Take Much to Sink the Texas.

New York, Dec. 5.—Ever since gossip in naval circles was aroused by the sinking of the battleship Texas at the Cob dock, in Brooklyn, speculation has been busy as to the actual fighting efficiency of the vessel. It is now said that naval officers concede that the Texas is a weak ship and totally unfit for sea duty. The primary cause is said to lie with the English designer, William John, an engineer of the Barrow Ship Building Company, whose plans for a 6,000 ton ship contained a deck and gun plan which would have required a 10,000 ton displacement.

To bring the ship within the required displacement limits it became necessary to scrimp in the hull, and to remove every possible pound of weight. As a result, her hull is that of a light cruiser, with enough weight of armament on deck to spring the bulkheads in the hull with the least shock. It is said that an ordinary shot from a small naval rifle would sink her.

FOR LOVE AND CUBA.

A Michigan Girl Will Go as Nurse in Maceo's Army.

La Grange, Ind., Dec. 5.—Miss Anna E. Colman, of Noble Center, Branch county, Mich., left this city yesterday for Key West, Fla., where she hopes to find passage to Cuba.

William R. Needham, aged 22, a Michigan boy, is a soldier in the Cuban army under Gen. Maceo. Miss Colman is Needham's betrothed. A love of adventure caused Nedham to volunteer his services to the cause of Cuban independence. Miss Colman will also take service with the Cuban army as a nurse, and is hopeful of being attached to the same command under whose standard Needham is fighting.

TO BE MARRIED.

Miss Lucy Uhl, Daughter of Hon. E. F. Uhl, Ambassador at Berlin.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 2.—Miss Lucy Uhl, daughter of Edwin F. Uhl, United States ambassador at Berlin, and Prof. Guy V. Thompson, of Yale

MISS LUCY UHL.

College, will be married at the United States embassy Dec. 9.

It will doubtless be a brilliant event for the American colony in Berlin, and at which doubtless the resident representatives of other governments will be guests.

After an extended European trip the couple will return to this country to live at Bridgeport, Conn.

Miss Uhl is very attractive personally, thoroughly cultured, and highly accomplished. Her home is in this city, where she was born. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and spent three years in foreign travel and study.

When her father became assistant secretary of state she became a familiar figure in Washington society.

Conversant with German, French and Italian, she has been an important factor in the social affairs at the American embassy in the German capital.

Prof. Thompson is a son of Col. J. W. Thompson, of this city, and as children he and Miss Uhl went to school together. He now holds a professorship in Yale College, of which he is a graduate.

PRESIDENT'S ORDER

Will Cost the Germans Considerable Money.

New York, Dec. 4.—Regarding the proclamation of President Cleveland reimposing the tonnage dues and other shipping charges on German vessels in ports of the United States, a representative of the German Lloyds said today:

"The proposed change would cost our company about $1,000 annually for each vessel sailing from Bremen to New York. It might mean a total outlay of $15,000 a year. Some of the ships now building, having a greater tonnage, would probably cost the company still more. I cannot say whether such a change would affect rates, but the extra expense will have to be borne by somebody. I can see no reason for the change, concerning which we have heard nothing."

The Hamburg-American line will suffer to as great an extent, probably, as the German Lloyds.

At Washington.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The president's proclamation imposing tonnage dues on German vessels in American ports has caused much comment here.

The German embassy is very much wrought up over the matter, while the Ambassadors from France and Great Britain take a good deal of quiet pleasure out of the situation. They stand by and laugh in their sleeves, anxious to help along anything that looks like a slap at the German, who is a little too zealous in competing with the commerce carriers of those two great nations.

The president's proclamation will go into effect the morning of January 3, after which date the vessels of Germany entering our ports must pay shipping charges ranging on a sliding scale from six to thirty cents per ton per annum.

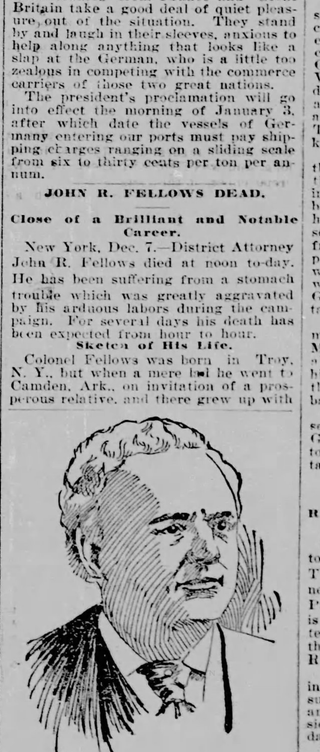
JOHN R. FELLOWS DEAD.

Close of a Brilliant and Notable Career.

New York, Dec. 7.—District Attorney John R. Fellows died at noon to-day. He has been suffering from a stomach trouble which was greatly aggravated by his arduous labors during the campaign. For several days his death has been expected from hour to hour.

Sketch of His Life.

Colonel Fellows was born in Troy, N. Y., but when a mere lad he went to Camden, Ark., on invitation of a prosperous relative, and there grew up with



JOHN R. FELLOWS.

the country and became a lawyer. At the time of the breaking out of the civil war he was one of the leaders in the Democratic political circles in that state, and as such opposed to the end all attempts at secession. He took the ground that Lincoln had been constitutionally elected, and it was the duty of all the people to acquiesce in the verdict of the majority. He was overruled by a vast majority, and, living up to the doctrine which he preached, followed the majority and his state into the confederacy and entered the army. He served with distinction in the western department of the Confederate army until captured at Port Hudson.

After the war he returned to Camden, where he resumed his law practice. In 1866, while on a visit to his old home in New York, he found himself elected to the state Senate without any effort on his own behalf. This brought him into New York state politics, where he has since been a strong factor.

He served for many years as assistant district attorney, and then succeeded Judge Martine as district attorney. He resigned this position to take his seat in the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congress, where his ability and eloquence won for him instant recognition. He resigned his seat in Congress to go back to his old love, the district attorneyship.

Colonel Fellows ranked high as a lawyer, but it was as a stump speaker and an orator that he was best known. He entered the lists nearly thirty years ago as a campaign speaker, at the invitation of Governor Seymour, when that gentleman had been nominated for the presidency, and since that time his face, figure and voice have become some of the leading features of every large political occasion. He ran "from grave to gay, from lively to severe," and was a man of great magnetic force."

THEY WANT WIVES.

Not Particular Whether They Are White or Black.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 8.—Several colonies are being organized in this state, which will start next spring for St. John's Island, in the South Pacific Ocean, where there are plenty of women, but no men.

The scheme proves so attractive to its managers that more recruits volunteer than can be accommodated.

Gen. Sigel Out of Danger.

New York, Dec. 8.—Gen. Franz Sigel, who has been ill from pleurisy during the past two weeks, has been pronounced out of danger by attendant physicians.

Thos. Slater's offer on page 3 is a beacon of hope to all men.

MAY KILL SEDUCERS.

Peculiar Law Proposed in the Alabama Legislature.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 4.—Representative Pitts, one of the foremost lawyers in the assembly, has introduced a bill which in effect will license a man to kill the despoiler of his female releative.

It is urged that the law making such homicide murder is a dead letter on the statute books, and that the proposed law would enable the juries of Alabama to cease ignoring the written law in order to meet the end of justice.

FOREIGN.

ENGLISH OPINIONS.

Message of President Cleveland Generally Commended.

London, Dec. 8.—All the newspapers have editorials on President Cleveland's message. Most of them regard the message as one of rather minor importance, except so far as it concerns the Cuban question, to which phase the bulk of the comment is devoted.

The Daily News, the Liberal organ, says of the Cuban portion of the message:

"President Cleveland's argument is clear enough that no country possesses the right to foster a perpetual source of trouble, and that Spain must either grant autonomy or sell. Spain, however, will probably refuse to do anything of the kind. Her proverbial pride will be much hurt by America's interference. She will be disposed to insist upon her right to wallop her own niggers as long as she pleases, and Europe being very sensitive just now on the subject of the Monroe doctrine, Spain will probably be influentially supported if she holds out. We hope she will not prevail because autonomy is best for Cuba and best for Spain."

The editorial in the Times says: "The tone and spirit of the message are worthy of all praise. It is a pity that the moderation and balance of mind which Mr. Cleveland has just displayed were not more conspicuous last year when he startled two continents by a menace of war. If the Venezuelan question had been handled as Mr. Cleveland now handles the Cuban question, he might have averted the disruption of the Democracy and have kept Bryan and Bryanism in their previous obscurity."

The Chronicle, Liberal, in common with other papers, congratulates both countries on the prospects of the adoption of a general arbitration treaty. It says: "It is clear that the Cleveland administration means to conclude the great reform before resigning office."

The Standard, Conservative, says it thinks Spain had better accept Mr. Cleveland's friendly counsel as Mr. McKinley is not likely to be less exacting than Mr. Cleveland.

"The Monroe doctrine," says the Standard, "is making great strides. It is a large, bold policy, not quite free from danger. Fortunately as far as England is concerned, the prospect of the arbitration treaty makes the risks of trouble small. Altogether it is a dignified and able message."

OVER THE TROCHA.

Maceo Goes Through the Spanish Dead Line.

New York, Dec. 8.—A Herald special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: A dispatch from Havana states that Antonio Maceo has crossed the Trocha with a large force. It is reported that Captain General Weyler has been wounded. All news from the scene of the engagement is suppressed by the officials at the palace.

Commenting on the above the Herald says: The report that Maceo has crossed the Trocha is in line with the expectations of the Cuban junta in this city. Since Gen. Maceo, by order of Gen. Gomez, and in defiance of Gen. Weyler, invaded the province of Pinar del Rio, in March last, Spanish, as well as Cuban reports have represented him again and again as having crossed the Trocha constructed by Gen. Weyler, to keep him from rejoining Gomez.

"The Spaniards have his crossing of the line in disguise as his way of getting out of the trap into which, according to them, he had entered. The Cubans, on the other hand, have reported his crossing as in defiance of the alleged security of the Spanish line. Maceo has from time to time stated to those supposed to be in close communication with him, that he would cross the line when it should be time for him to meet Gen. Gomez again in Havana or Matanzas province.

"According to the dispatches Gen. Gomez was in Santa Clara province near Matanzas, with his extreme vanguard already near Havana itself. Some of his men are said to have participated in the raid on Guanabacoa, just across the bay from Havana, on December 1.

"Under such circumstances it would seem that the moment had come when Gomez and Maceo would naturally wish to combine their forces for a strong attack on the Spanish army."

CUBAN FORCES

Ride Right Into the Streets of Guanabacoa.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 7.—A special to the Citizen from Key West says: The steamer Whitney brought Havana news in relation to Maceo and Weyler. Passengers state that Weyler himself is now encamped ten miles from Artemisa, and his army is scattered along the Trocha and through the Pinar Del Rio district.

When Maceo retreated from Weyler in his first campaign his plan was to surprise Weyler at the first opportunity, and now Maceo has his army on either side of Weyler, and they are having daily skirmishes.

Weyler is completely hemmed in, and if he shall attempt to move he will be forced to go to Artemisa. Small bands have crossed the Trocha into the Havana district, and are attacking the outposts and villages of that province.

Ready When Needed.

Insurgents numbering 7,000 are encamped in Havana province, twenty miles from Havana, and will go to Maceo's assistance when needed. Spies in Havana are keeping the insurgents posted as to the movements of the Spanish troops. A movement is on foot to capture Weyler if he shall attempt to go to Havana by rail. Firemen and volunteers in Havana are being sent to Weyler's relief. Heretofore these troops were used in the defense of the city.

Since Tuesday's raid on Guanabacoa the city has been attacked almost every night, and Thursday night 250 Cuban cavalry rode for two hours through the city. The damage done amounts to 36 houses burned and a large quantity of supplies and ammunition seized; also a large number of mules loaded and ready to leave the city taken.

Women Bayonetted.

It is said that Spanish field hospitals also are full of sick and wounded men. The trocha was forced about ten miles from the southern end yesterday by one hundred Cubans. A party of five officers, three of them women, were met by a Spanish column Thursday near Artemisa, and all shot, or bayoneted. They were charged with giving food to the Cubans.

More Soldiers Arriving.

Havana, Dec. 7.—The steamers Catalina and Isle De Panaya, having on board 2,550 soldiers, have arrived here.

Report Regarding Maceo.

Madrid, Dec. 7.—A report reaches here from Havana that Antonio Maceo has gone to New York to consult with the Cuban revolutionary committee there.

HAVANA PEOPLE

Say That Weyler's Force Has Been Fighting.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 4.—It is learned that rumors are rife in Havana that a fight has just occurred between the vanguard of Weyler's army and some of Maceo's men with large forces on each side. No details are mentioned because, as the passengers say, the people in Havana are more than unusually reticent since it is learned that the Spanish army did not come off best. It is believed therefore that Maceo gained a victory. The palace people seemed more than usually vigilant and active to-day, which is significant. Two hundred sick and wounded Spanish soldiers were brought into the city hospitals to-day from near Mariel and San Cristotal. It is reported in Havana that Weyler has lost two railroad trains from dynamite explosions including much needed army supplies for his men sent from Havana.

Fifty persons arrested last week were deported to-day, but whither is a mystery, though Africa is supposed to be their destination. Rumors afloat of a proposed attack on Havana by Gomez seem unfounded. The best information obtainable is that scattered guerilla bands are hovering around Havana suburbs ten to twenty miles out and their encounters are of almost daily occurrence.

DESOLATION.

Covers the Once Prosperous Plantations of Cuba.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 2.—Angel La Madrid Cuesen, a wealthy Spanish merchant of Tampa, Fla., is in the city on business. He was formerly in the tobacco business in Cuba and was compelled to abandon it because of devastation on the island. In an interview yesterday he said:

"All the farms are burned to the ground in the path through which the Cubans marched their army, from one end of the island to the other. This is true up to within five miles of Havana. Every farm in Pinar del Rio has been destroyed. Even the fences have been burned as well as the houses."

BERING SEA COMMISSION.

Case of the Schooner Caroline Being Considered.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 3.—The preliminaries having been well settled, the Bering Sea claims committee got down to business yesterday. The actual trial of the claims began with the case of the schooner Caroline. The pleadings state that the schooner is a British vessel registered at Victoria; that she sailed hence May 20, 1886 to Bering Sea. The schooner was seized August 1 in Bering Sea by the United States revenue cutter Corwin towed to Ounalaska and condemned by the United States district court at Sitka on a charge of violating the municipal laws of the United States relating to seal fishing; that she was detained under such condemnation until after December 1886 when her return was offered but refused on the ground that the vessel had been practically wrecked in the meantime. By reason of the loss arising out of this illegal seizure $30,000 is asked and interest at 7 per cent per annum.

MEXICO'S INAUGURATION.

Diaz Takes the Oath for Another Term.

Mexico City, Dec. 2.—Gen. Diaz took the oath of office as chief magistrate yesterday in the hall of the chamber of deputies in the presence of a great assemblage of notable people and immediately afterward in the hall of the ambassadors in the national palace he received the diplomatic corps.

The president did not deliver the inaugural address as is customary in the United States. It is reported that he will certainly go to Europe next year.

All the cabinet ministers who had resigned in order to leave the president free to name their successors have been requested to retain their portfolios.

DR. JAMESON.

The Transvaal Raider is Seriously Ill.

London, Dec. 3.—Dr. Leander S. Jameson was released last night at 9 o'clock from Holloway jail, in compliance with the order of the home secretary, Sir Matthew White Ridley. Dr. Jameson underwent a serious operation in the jail on November 1, and the release was ordered on medical grounds. He was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment on July 28 last, on a charge of violating the neutrality laws in invading the territory of the South African republic.

IN THE WEST INDIES.

Awful Floods Have Occurred in the Leeward Islands.

London, Dec. 4.—An official despatch received here from St. Johns, Antigua, capital of the Leeward islands, says that serious floods have occurred in the island of Montserrat. Roads and bridges, it is added, have been destroyed and 75 persons have been drowned.

The Leeward islands form part of the British West Indian islands. Montserrat has an area of about 47 square miles and a population of nearly 9,000.

SATOLLI'S HAT.

Imposing Ceremonies at the Catholic Consistory.

Rome, Dec. 3.—There was the usual imposing ceremony at the public consistory here to-day, and red hats were bestowed on Cardinal Satolli and to the other cardinals nominated at the last two consistories. After the service the new cardinals proceeded to the Sistine chapel to return thanks to the pontiff, who, on his way back to the vatican, was carried on the sedia gestat

WASHINGTON.

PRECIOUS METALS.

Gold and Silver Used by the Government.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The report of R. E. Preston, the director of the mint, shows the operation of the mints and assay offices during the fiscal year 1896, together with statistics of relative to production, coinage and monetary condition of each.

The original gold bullion deposited at the mints and assay offices during the year was valued at $68,769,383. The original silver bullion deposited represented a coinage value of $11,672,077. The purchase of silver bullion for subsidiary coinage was 184,578 fine ounces costing $127,129.

The coinage executed at the mints during the fiscal year was as follows: Gold, $58,878,490; silver dollars, $7,-500,882; subsidiary silver, $3,939,819; minor coin, $869,337; total, $71,188,528.

There was a total coinage under the act of July 14, 1890, up to November 1, 1896, of $56,397,876, with a seignorage of $13,304,031, leaving on hand at the mints a balance of 125,061,262 fine ounces, cotsing $112,865,625.

Gold and silver bars was manufactured at the mints and assay offices during the fiscal year as follows: Gold, $53,-248,523; silver, $7,370,464.

The average London price of silver bullion during the fiscal year was equivalent to $0.68005. The commercial ratio of gold to silver was 1 to 20.58, and the bullion value of a United States silver dollar, at a yearly average price, was $0.52265.

The net gold exports for the fiscal year were $78,904,612, as against $30,-117,376 for the previous year. The net silver exports were $33,262,258, as against $27,631,789 for the previous year.

In the Industrial Arts.

The employment of precious metals in the industrial arts in the United States during 1895 was gold, $13,429,-000; silver, $27,477,624. The new material consumed in the manufacture of these bars was: Gold, $8,481,789; silver, $9,825,387.

The metallic stock in the United States on July 1, 1896, was: Gold, $709,597,554; silver, $628,728,971; a total of $1,228,326,035. The estimated production of the precious metals in the United States during the calendar year 1895 was as follows:

Metals.	Fine ounces.	Commercial value.
Gold	2,254,769	$46,610,000
Silver	55,727,000	36,445,000

The estimated production of gold and silver in the world for the calendar year 1895 was as follows:

Gold	9,694,649	$200,406,000
Silver	168,398,353	110,073,700

The total coinage of gold and silver by the various countries of the world was as follows:

Gold, $231,087,428; silver, $121,610,-219; total, $352,697,677.

NATIONAL DEBT.

It Shows a Big Increase for November.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The statement of the public debt issued shows that on November 30, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to $995,709,159, an increase for the month of $8,270,203. This increase is accounted for by a corresponding decrease in the amount of cash on hand.

The cash balance in the treasury amounts to $225,357,698.

Coinage.

The statement of the director of the mint shows that during November, 1896, the total coinage at the mints of the United States was $7,458,722, of which $5,064,700 was gold, $2,305,022 silver, and $89,000 minor coins. The coinage of standard silver dollars during the month was $1,914,000.

Bank Notes.

The monthly statement of the comptroller of the currency shows that on November 30, the amount of national bank notes in circulation was $235,312,-103, an increase for the month of $114,-446, and for the last twelve months of $21,440,963. Amount of circulation based on United States bonds was $216,-669,684, an increase for the month of $99,470, and for the last twelve months of $26,140,158. The amount of circulation secured by lawful money was $18,-702,419, an increase for the month of $314,776, and a decrease for the last twelve months of $4,699,351. The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulating notes was $241,272,150, and to secure public deposits, $15,993,000.

WORDS OF WARNING.

For People Who Think Fortunes Are Easy in South America.

Washington, Dec. 4.—For the benefit of Americans who constantly write letters inquiring what Americans without capital, but with "energy and push," can do in Brazil, United States Consul Mathews, at Para, sounds a note of warning in a report to the State department to his indigent countrymen, a class arriving there every month in the year. He says that such people coming to Para without means to maintain themselves while acquiring the Portuguese language, an essential, and seeking employment, cannot have much chance of success. There are more applicants than positions; salaries are very small and living is the most expensive in the world.

As to out-of-door labor, no white American exposed to the burning sun and daily rains could hope to escape yellow fever, and perhaps death. To deal in rubber requires large capital, and American rubber gatherers would have but one chance in ten for life, for even among the natives the mortality is 50 per cent on some rivers.

STEAM VESSELS.

Supervising Inspector General Dument Makes His Annual Report.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Supervising Inspector General Dument of the steamboat inspection service reports for the fiscal year that the total number of annual certificates of inspection issued to steam vessels, foreign and domestic, was 8,297; number of certificates issued to foreign passenger steam vessels, 300; to domestic steam vessels, 7,997; total net tonnage, 2,228,020,546. The officers licensed numbered 19,917. It is estimated that 600,000,000 passengers were carried on steam vessels during the year.

The total number of accidents resulting in loss of life during the year was 42, and lives lost 221, a decrease in lives lost from the previous year of 173.

Of the number of lives lost 68 were passengers and 153 belonged to the crews of the vessels. The supervising inspector general renews his recommendations of last year for legislation authorizing the secretary of the treasury to divide local inspection districts with a board of local inspectors in each. He also renews his recommendations in behalf of legislation to secure nonpartisan service and permanent tenure of office, except for incompetency, misconduct or permanent physical or mental disability, and for legislation creating an assistant supervising inspector general on account of the large increase of work in his office, such work having increased over 100 per cent since 1876.

800,000 ACRES.

Involved in a Big California Railroad Suit.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The United States Supreme court has been engaged in hearing arguments in a case involving the title of about 800,000 acres of land in Southern California. The land was comprised in the original grant to the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company made in 1866, and the dispute is between the United States government and the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. This grant was forfeited by the failure of the Atlantic & Pacific to build its road within the specified time. The Southern Pacific claims the land on a junior grant. The case comes to the supreme court from the circuit, where the decision was adverse to the railway company. The record in the suit covers about 4,000 pages of printed matter, including an entire volume of maps and drawings. The case was presented by Mr. Joseph Choate for the railroad company, and Assistant Attorney General Dickinson appears for the government. To-day Mr. Choate claimed that the Southern Pacific Company was entitled to the land in controversy, because the Atlantic & Pacific Company had never filed a definite map of location.

RAISING SPONGES.

An Experiment May Be Tried Off the Florida Coast.

Washington, Dec. 4.—A report is now being prepared at the fish commission of an investigation being made under the direction of Congress into fish conditions in Florida. The report will take a wide range, as a thorough investigation has been made. The object was to ascertain more particularly whether sponge could be successfully cultivated in Florida waters, and also whether it would be expedient to establish a marine station at some point on the Florida coast for the purpose of cultivating sponges and also for the propagation of food fishes of those waters.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

AN EXTRA SESSION.

Leaders Convinced That McKinley Will Call Congress.

Washington, Dec. 5.—There is practically no longer any doubt of the intention of President-elect McKinley to convene the Fifty-fifth Congress in extraordinary session early next spring. There were several arrivals of friends and confidants of Major McKinley's direct from Canton to-day who bring the very positive announcement that a call for a special session to be convened a few days after the 4th of March has been decided upon. It is stated by men in a position to know that this decision has been definitely reached by Mr. McKinley since his consultation with Mr. Dingley, chairman of the committee on ways and means, and that Mr. Dingley has been intrusted with the privilege of making known this intention at the proper time.

Right From Canton.

Senator Thurston, one of the latest arrivals from Canton, expressed to-day in the most positive terms the conviction that an extra session will be called. The Senator was one of the earliest and staunchest supporters of Mr. McKinley, and there is every reason for believing that his utterance is inspired to a degree, though the Senator himself declines to say that such is the case. "All I can say," he said to-day, "is that I have very recently seen Major McKinley, and that I am convinced that a session of the next Congress will be called for about the 15th of March. That ought to be satisfactory. I cannot quote any one, but I do not consider that there is any doubt on the point."

"Shall we have the extra session regardless of the Senatorial elections this winter?" was asked.

"Yes, the complexion of the Senate will not be allowed to influence the decision at all. The Republican administration has been elected under a pledge to the people to reform the tariff, and its duty to this country is to proceed about that business at the earliest possible moment and either to keep its pledge or make it manifest that it is impossible to do so. I think we ought to secure a tariff which could be put into effect by the beginning of the next fiscal year."

Senator Thurston said he did not consider the passage of the Dingley bill at the short session as probable.

FIVE MILLION FISH EGGS.

Pacific Coast Fish Being Sent to Eastern Waters.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Under the direction of Commissioner Brice a large number of Pacific coast salmon are to be planted in eastern waters. A fish car containing 5,000,000 eggs is now on the way east, and the eggs will be planted in the Kennebec, Penobscot, Merrimac, Hudson, Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. About 8,000 yearlings will be turned loose in the Penobscot and the tributaries. The commission is gratified with the result of its work, on the Pacific coast this year. More than 37,-000,000 eggs have been hatched, three tmies as many as were hatched in any previous year. Of these 26,000,000 were hatched at the new station at Battle Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento river in California.

The commissioner secured a site which belonged to the California commission and since has built an additional hatchery at the same place. It is now regarded as one of the best stations in the United States. Not the least important action of the fish commission is the transference of the steel head trout from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast where a large number have been planted.

A FAIR SHOW.

It Will Be Given Veteran Soldiers in the Future in Pension Cases.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Ex-parte investigations by the government in pension cases have been abolished by recent action of the pension office, and this is a step of great importance to claimants of all classes and will be of great benefit to veterans. The action is in line with the policy of Commissioner of Pensions Murphy to give the claimants the benefit of the doubt.

Until 1878 every investigation made by the bureau was ex-parte. The practice was done away with to some extent that year and now has been abolished save in criminal cases. The old practice gave rise to many complaints now on file.

GERMAN VESSELS.

They Must Hereafter Pay Charges in Port.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The President has issued a proclamation suspending after January next the operations of the act which relieves German vessels entering United States ports from the payment of tonnage dues and other shipping charges. This action was taken upon proof that American vessels are denied corresponding privileges in German ports. The shipping charges under our laws are based on a sliding scale. The President's action doubtless will arouse wide-spread interest in shipping circles.

THE NEXT HOUSE.

Unofficial Roll of the Coming Congress.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The clerk of the House of Representatives has issued the usual unofficial list of members of the House of the Fifty-fifth Congress. The list shows that the House will be composed of 204 Republicans, 124 Democrats, 13 Fusionists, 12 Populists, and 3 Silverites, and that there is one vacancy. Of the total membership 205 were in the last House and 10 others have served in previous Congresses.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

Files an Objection to a Tonnage on Its Vessels.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The German government has lodged an energetic protest with the state department against the action of the president in imposing tonnage duties on German ships entering American ports. The receipt of this protest will be fully acknowledged, but there the matter is likely to rest unless the German government takes steps to remove the charge on American shipping which formed the basis for the president's recent proclamation.

INDIA RUBBER.

Nicaraguan Authorities Grant Another Year for Its Sale.

Washington, Dec. 7.—United States Consul O'Hara at Greytown, has notified the state department that the Nicaraguan government has amended the decree of July 13 last, prohibiting the exportation of rubber from Nicaragua after January 1, 1897, so as to permit such exportation until January 1, 1898. All rubber exported next year, however, will be subject to an export tax of 10 cents Nicaraguan money (4.9 cents United States money) per libra (1,013 pounds).

WADE HAMPTON.

Washington, Dec. 5.—General Wade Hampton, commissioner of railroads, has gone to his old home in Columbia, S. C., to recuperate from renewed trouble resulting from the amputation of a leg years ago. He has been unable to go to his office for several weeks and has been compelled to attend to his duties at his hotel apartments most of the time for several years.

CONGRES MEETS.

There Were Usual Scenes of Bustle and Gaiety.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The re-assembling of Congress to-day for the closing session of the Fifty-fourth Congress was an occasion of unusual brilliancy and interest. The opening day is always a gala affair, marking as it does the official inauguration of the social, as well as the political season in Washington, but to-day it was all the more interesting because of the long and hard fought political battle that had been waged during the recess.

The weather was perfect, clear and fairly warm. The throngs who streamed up the hill to witness the opening ceremonies formed an unorganized civic pageant. Gay equipages, with a rattle of chains, drawn by prancing steeds, conveyed the diplomats, the fashionables and the more prominent in official life. These elegant turnouts moved side by side with one-horse ramshackle cabs and other nondescript two wheelers, conveying legislators and visitors. The unnumbered thousands moved up Pennsylvania avenue on foot or in street cars. The corridors and galleries were soon thronged, there were demonstrations for conspicuously prominent statesmen, and at last came the drop of the gavel and the regular ceremonies attending the opening of the session and the reception of the President's annual communication to Congress.

In the Senate.

The Senate chamber was a centre of interest long before the hour of assembling had arrived, and by 11 o'clock the public galleries were filled and crowds were at the entrances unable to gain admission. Sir Julian Pauncefote, accompanied by members of his staff and several members of the diplomatic corps, were in the gallery reserved for foreign representatives, and with them were several ladies bearing cards from Secretary Olney.

In the seats reserved for the Vice President's family and friends sat Mrs. Stevenson and several ladies. Back of them in the seats reserved for the families of senators were many of the wives and daughters of those prominent on the floor. The gallery crowds found ease and comfort in the new theatre seats put in since the last session closed, although it resulted in reducing the seating capacity almost one-half.

There was plenty of color to greet the senators, for the floor of the chamber looked like a conservatory with many of the desks bearing superb floral decorations. The Senate officials were quick to note that the tributes stood "16 to 1," 16 being on the Republican side and one on the Democratic side, although this proportion was broken as many Democratic tributes were brought in just as the session opened.

Exactly at 12 o'clock the Vice President entered the chamber, and, going to the desk of the presiding officer, gave a tap which brought the Senate to order while the blind chaplain, Rev. Dr. Milburn, delivered an impressive invocation.

The roll call showed 70 senators present. Mr. Cullom was the first to receive recognition, and his resolution that the House of Representatives be notified that the Senate was in session and ready to proceed to business agreed to without comment. Mr. Hale followed with a resolution that the daily hour for meeting be 12 o'clock meridian, which was agreed to.

Mr. Sherman made the customary motion for a committee of Senators and members to wait upon the President, and upon its adoption the presiding officer named Mr. Sherman and Mr. Smith (Dem. N. J.), as the Senators of the committee.

Mr. Morrill (Rep. Vt.), was the first to suggest anything in the nature of legislative business, by presenting several petitions asking for the passage of the Dingley bill. He yielded, however, to Mr. Hoar's suggestion that all business be deferred, as a matter of courtesy, until the President and House of Representatives had been communicated with, and thereupon at 12:15 p. m., the Senate took a recess until 1 o'clock.

At 1 o'clock there was a further recess for 30 minutes and then another for 15 minutes.

At 1:45 p. m. Senator Sherman reported that the President had been waited upon and would communicate his views in writing. Secretary Pruden, of the White House staff, immediately stepped forward, message in hand, and made the formal announcement of a communication from the President. It was taken to the presiding officer's desk, where the seal was broken and thereupon Gen. Cox, secretary of the Senate, began reading the document.

Most of the Senators remained in their seats while the reading of the President's message proceeded and followed it with close interest through the early stages. Printed copies were distributed and the Senators ran through these, picking out the salient features and anticipating the formal reading.

In the House.

The House presented a very animated scene for an hour before Speaker Reed appeared. The galleries, to which the public were admitted without cards, were crowded to the doors before 11 o'clock, while the halls were jammed with those unable to gain entrance. The reserved galleries filled more slowly, but before 12 o'clock were brightened with the handsome gowns of fair women.

From the floor below arose the indescribable buzz of many voices, as the members exchanged greetings with much handshaking, after the manner of college students meeting again after the long vacation. There were reminiscences of the campaign, explanations of defeat, exploitations of victory, congratulations and condolences.

The aisles were crowded with outsiders, many of them local politicians, already besieging their members for the fruits of service rendered, lobbyists already pressing for the consideration of bills in which they were interested, and old claimants hoping against hope that this session would see the consummation of their long deferred desires.

Pages were scurrying about, carrying to the seats of the members flowers and floral pieces from constituents or admiring friends.

But in the midst of this general rejoicing there was an air of sadness as members glanced at the black pall which covered the conspicuous desk of the late ex-Speaker Crisp, the Democratic leader. His portrait in the lobby in the rear of the House, was wreathed with calla lillies. The ex-speaker's death cast a shadow over the whole house, and was especially apparent on the Democratic side, where his loss will be keenly felt.

All the Ohio members were the centers of little groups of members. There were no demonstrations of any character.

As the hands of the clock pointed to 12, Speaker Reed quietly entered the hall and ascended the rostrum. He was attired in a black frock coat, and looked bronzed and vigorous. The silver mace, the emblem of the authority of the house, was lifted to its place on the green malachite pedestal to the right of the rostrum, and with a sharp crack of the gavel, the speaker called the house to order. The hum of conversation instantly ceased and the gallery became quiet. Rev. Dr. Cowden, of Michigan, the blind chaplain of the house, offered the invocation.

The roll call showed the presence of 271 members. As soon as the speaker announced the presence of a quorum, and that the house was ready to proceed to business, a dozen members demanded recognition, but the speaker first received the usual message from the Senate stating that the Senate had a quorum present, and was ready to proceed to business.

The usual formal resolutions for the appointment of a committee to act with a similar committee of the Senate and inform the President that the House was ready to proceed to business, and directing the clerk to inform the Senate that the House was prepared to proceed were adopted. The speaker appointed Mr. Cannon, of Illinois; Mr. Payne, of New York, and Mr. Turner, of Georgia, to constitute the committee. The selection of Mr. Turner was considered a significant indication that the Georgia member would succeed ex-Speaker Crisp as a member of the committee on rules, as it was a formal recognition of him as the leader of the Democratic side. In order to await the report of the committee the House on the motion of Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, took a recess until 1:35 p. m.

The House took a further recess until 2 o'clock and then Mr. Pruden, the President's executive clerk, presented the message, which was read by the direction of the speaker.

SILVER BOLTERS

Stay Away From the Republican Senatorial Caucus.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The most noticeable feature of the Republican Senate caucus, which assembled to-day as seen from the outside, was the absence of the men who had bolted the nomination of McKinley because of the gold standard platform. Those who were absent on this account were Senators Dubois, Pettigrew, Mantle, Cannon, Squire and Teller. All of these, except Senator Teller, were in the city, and could have attended if they had been so disposed. Indeed some of them were in their committee rooms in the capitol while the caucus was in progress. That their absence was intentional was clearly shown.

The bolters had all received invitations, which were sent them as if they had never left the party, but they had decided not to attend. They had found it impossible to communicate with Senator Teller, who has not yet reached the city, but all expressed confidence that if here he would not have gone into the conference.

If the bolting silverites were conspicuous by their absence the silver men who had remained within the party were, as a rule, exceptionally prompt in their attendance.

There were no long speeches in the caucus and very few speeches of any character. Senator Dubois' letter of resignation was received without a word of comment.

Favor Dingley Bill.

The Dingley tariff bill was referred to the steering committee with instructions to investigate as to the likelihood of getting the bill through and to devise means to amend if possible. It was the prevailing opinion that the best policy demanded the passage of the bill if possible to encompass it, but the opinion seemed quite as general that this result was not within the range of possibilities.

The entire question was referred to the committee with very liberal powers.

Senator Gear brought up the Pacific railroad question, as did Senator Lodge the immigration bill. The Pacific road bill was referred to the steering committee, but after Mr. Lodge had explained the status of the immigration bill, the caucus desired to stand by that as a party measure and to press for its early consideration.

Silver.

The caucus also decided for an international agreement on silver, by agreeing to the following resolution introduced by Senator Wolcott:

"Resolved, That a special committee of five members of this caucus be appointed to recommend some plan whereby legislation may be had at this session of Congress looking to an international conference with leading commercial nations of the world for the promotion of bi-metallism."

UNUSUAL PROCEEDING.

Secretary of State Has Something to Say.

Washington, Dec. 7.—For the first time within the memory of old officials the secretary of State has made a regular report to the President for transmission to Congress, like the reports of other officers of the Cabinet. This report was laid before Congress to-day as an appendix to the President's message. It treats of many details of our relations during the past year with foreign governments that either were not touched upon at all in the message or was more briefly treated.

Under the head of Spain, Secretary Olney has much to say in reference to Cuba, and in his report he sets out in great detail the history of the growth of the rebellion; the present evil state of affairs on the island, and other facts upon which the President bases his broad statements and conclusions.

No report is made to a report from Consul-General Lee, but the secretary intimates that his information comes principally from the United States consuls, and so must be regarded as confidential as to its source. The secretary's estimate of the present situation is disclosed in the following paragraph made after a preliminary statement of the destruction of the industrial resources of Cuba:

Dangerous Situation.

From whatever point of view we regard the matter, it is impossible to discern that a state of things existent at our doors alike dangerous to good relations, destructive of legitimate commerce, fatal to the interior resources of Cuba and most vexatious and trying because entailing upon this government excessive burdens in its domestic administration and in its outward relations. This situations cannot continue indefinitely without growing still worse, and the time may not be far distant when the United States must seriously consider whether its rights and interests as well as its international duties in view of its peculiar relations to the island do not call for some decided change in the policy hitherto pursued."

To begin with, the secretary makes it plain that the present insurrection is far more formidable than the famous "ten year insurrection," which began at Yara in 1868. He says that starting in the same portion of the island, it very early took proportions beyond its predecessor, and therewith assumed an aggressive phase. Passing the defensive lines or trochas traversing the island from north to south, formidable bodies of the revolutionary forces early in the year established themselves in the rich sugar-planting districts of Santa Clara, Cienfuegnas and Matanzas, made hostile forays almost in sight of Havana itself, and, advancing westward, effected a lodgment in the fertile tobacco fields of Pinar del Rio, which has so far resisted all efforts of the Spanish forces to overcome.

NEXT YEAR'S NEEDS.

Secretary Carlisle's Estimate of What is Needed.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Secretary Carlisle to-day transmitted to the speaker of the House of Representatives the estimates of appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. They are recapitulated by titles as follows, cents being omitted:

Legislative establishment	$ 4,379,820
Executive establishment	19,865,952
Judicial establishment	997,120
Foreign intercourse	2,082,728
Military establishment	24,290,636
Naval establishment	32,434,773
Indian affairs	7,279,525
Pensions	141,578,580
Public works	31,437,061
Postal service	1,288,334
Miscellaneous	36,344,216
Permanent annual appropriations	120,078,220
Totals	$421,718,970

The estimates for the present fiscal year amounted to $418,091,073, and the appropriations for the present fiscal year, including deficiencies and miscellaneous, amounted to $432,421,605.

THE APPROPRIATIONS.

Appropriations for the Next Fiscal Year Will Be $140,000,000.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—The appropriation for pensions for the next fiscal year will not be less than $140,-000,000, and may exceed that sum. The sub-committee of the house appropriations committee which is now drafting the measure finds that the most rigid economy will not reduce the amount necessary for the maintenance of the pension office beyond $130,000 in the appropriation for fees for examining surgeons. This saving will result not from reducing the fees, but because a surplus to that extent will remain unexpended from this year's appropriation.

The applications for pensions under the general law, which have been laid aside for several years in favor of cases arising under the law of 1890, will come up for adjudication during the next fiscal year, and the effect will be to overrun the $140,000,000 to be appropriated by several million dollars.

Treasury Statement.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Yesterday's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, $225,821,427; gold reserve, $132,706,250.

CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a lifelong study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Postoffice address.

Prof. W. J. PEPKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York

DISAPPOINTED.

Cubans Call the Message an Enigm aand Puzzle.

New York, Dec. 8.—The World publishes the following interviews on the views of prominent Cubans on the President's message:

Piedrel Pierot, of the junta:—"The message is an enigma and puzzle. I should have a far higher regard for Mr. Cleveland had he simply announced that the United States government was opposed to the cause of Cuban liberty, and sympathized with Spain's effort to crush the revolution. The message will not make a particle of difference one way or the other so far as the revolution is concerned. If the soldiers of Gomez and Maceo realize that the measure means the United States will not raise a finger to stop Weyler's butcheries they will fight with that terrible energy that is born of despair.

"Cleveland's talk about autonomy only shows how little he really knows of the real state of affairs. The idea of autonomy is dead. Scarcely any one in Cuba, even among the Spanish themselves, consider it seriously. The autonomist party went to pieces months ago. For us now there are left only the two alternatives— independence or extermination."

Manuel A. Recio De Morales: "I resigned my position as a leader of the Reformist party, which is similar in its aims to the autonomist, because I became convinced that absolute independence is all that can save Cuba."

Delegates Estrada Palma and Joaquin Castillo declined to be interviewed but declared through their secretaries that they would issue a statement within a short time.

SHIP FORFEITED

For Killing Seals Within Forbidden Territory.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 8.—The owners of the American schooner James G. Swan have lost their case before the United States district court and will be compelled to forfeit the vessel for violating the sealing law. The case is already a noted one as it is the first time an American schooner has been forfeited for illegal sealing by an American court.

In his information the United States attorney alleged that the cause for the forfeiture was that the Swan was on August 5, 1895 found employed in killing and capturing fur seals in Bering sea within the limits of a zone of sixty geographical miles surrounding the Priby loff islands in violation of the first section of the act of 1894.

The owners of the vessel appeared in the case as claimants and with an answer denying that the schooner was at any time violating the law. In this they were substantiated by the members of the crew who appeared as witnesses and claimed they did not intend to violate the law. Inasmuch as the law does not specifically declare a forfeiture of wages, these men claimed they were entitled to receive their wages out of the proceeds of the sale of the vessel, but in this Judge Hanford disagreed, claiming the forfeiture to be absolute.

AN OCEAN MYSTERY.

Message From the Mohawk Lost Sixteen Years Ago is Found.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 5.—The Australian steamer Warrimo, which arrived Thursday night, reports one of the most remarkable tales of the sea chronicled in recent years.

A bottle was picked up near Cape Kidnapper, N. Z., just before the Canadian liner left Sydney, containing an unsealed message to the effect that the ship Mohawk sprang a leak in latitude 42.21 south and longitude 160.24 west, and that the crew was taking to the boats, as a last hope. The message, which was yellow with age, concluded:

"God help us.

"JOHN FRANKLIN."

The Mohawk, John Franklin, mate, was lost, with all hands, 16 years ago, on a voyage from Quebec to Troon, in Ayrshire, and this wave-buffeted message is the first word that has been had as to how she met her doom.

There is no doubt as to the genuineness of the message, though how it reached the New Zealand coast is a mystery.

BOTH MUST DIE.

New Trials Refused for Jackson and Walling.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 8.—The court of appeals has refused a new trial to Scott Jackson.

The opinion of the court of appeals covers also the appeal of the attorneys for Alonzo Walling, who must die. The grounds for appeal were that the judge erred in instructing, the sheriff erred in not allowing admission except by ticket and that the evidence was insufficient. Governor Bradley must now fix the date of execution.

The opinion was prepared by Judge Hazelrigg. There is said to be no grounds for carrying the case to the United States court and the governor's warrant for the execution of Scott Jackson must issue. The law requires a judge in sentencing a criminal to allow not more than ninety or less than twenty days after sentence.

The only restrictions upon the governor is that he shall not appoint a day earlier than was appointed by the court. That day has already passed.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE.

Annual Meeting of the National Organization at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The annual convention of the American Anti-Saloon league began here this morning, the sessions being held in the Calvary Baptist Sunday School house. Prominent persons from all parts of the country are present and the meeting promises to be one of the most interesting in aid of the temperance cause ever held in the capital city.

One hundred and seventeen delegations are in attendance. Of these sixteen are national, eight state and ninety-three representing separate organizations. Among the more prominent workers in the temperance cause present are Hon. Hiram Price, Rev. L. B. Wilson, James L. Ewin, Rev. A. J. Kynett, Rev. Howard Russell and Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer.

RARE RELIC.

Original Copy of Wesley's Rules for Methodists.

St. Louis, Dec. 7.—An original copy of the first printed "Rules for the Society of the People called Methodists" was unearthed yesterday in this city, and as it was published by John and Charles Wesley over their own signatures in 1743, and contains the first nucleus of the literature of the Methodist church, which now numbers over 5,000,000 members in the United States, worshiping in 53,000 religious edifices of their own, it is a most interesting document not only to followers of that faith, but to students of religious history. The circular is of four pages, and is falling to pieces with age and handling. The paper is yellow, and the print unreadable in places from the stains of time.

SPIRITS EXPOSED.

Fate of "Prof." Stanley, the "Chicago Wonder," at Newton, Mass.

Amesbury, Mass., Dec. 8.—"Professor" Stanley, a traveling spiritualist, advertising himself as the "spiritualist wonder from Chicago," was giving an exhibition of the cabnet manfestations last evening at Newton when a number of men in the audience rushed on the stage and seized him, pulled the covering from the cabinet and discovered a confederate. Stanley and his confederate escaped through a rear door, the crowd in pursuit. The spiritualists were rescued from the mob by town constables and managed to escape.

Radway's Pills

Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Female Irregularities, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Piles, or a dose of Radway's Pills is sufficient to keep the bowels regular and secure PERFECT DIGESTION, and one of Radway's Pills will accomplish a better purpose than six of the ordinary drastic pills. A few doses will prove the correctness of this statement. Sold by Druggists, 25c a box, or by mail. RADWAY & Co., New York.

INDIANAPOLIS CONFERENCE.

Monetary Covention of Business Men Called.

Indianapolis, Dec. 5.—The executive committee in charge of the arrangements for the currency reform convention to meet in this city on January 12 yesterday agreed upon the following form of call:

Call for a Monetary Convention of Busines Men: The representatives of boards of trade, chamber of commerce and similar commercial bodies of the cities of Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Louisville, Columbus, Cleveland, Toledo, Grand Rapids and Indianapolis, in conference assembled at the city of Indianapolis on the first day of December, 1896, after due deliberation, do hereby call a non-partisan convention, to meet at the city of Indianapolis on the 12th day of January, 1897, to be composed of representative business men chosen from boards of trade, chambers of commerc, commercial clubs, or other similar commercial bodies in cities of 80,000 or more inhabitants, according to the census of 1890, the basis of representation to be tabulated according to the population of such cities for the purpose of considering and suggesting such legislation as may, in their judgment be necessary to place the currency system of the country on a sound and permanent basis. On behalf of this call the conference submits that the fact that a commercial crisis of such legislation exists is generally conceded by business men.

It is the right and the duty of the business men of the nation in a matter of such vital importance or business concern, to render to this cause all the aid which their experience and knowledge can afford. They owe it to themselves as citizens of the republic and as a matter of business and self-preservation to participate actively and, we believe, efficiently, in this movement.

We have a right to believe that a convention composed of broad-minded and enlightened men, so earnest in the pursuit of truth that party considerations will be forgotten, convening in the spirit of enlightened partiotism, can and will do much in helping forward a wise and sound solution of the currency question.

We are also justified in the light of the recent Presidential election in saying that the voters of the nation are opposed to any plan of currency reform involving the use of any money which will place in jeopardy the honor or the credit of our country.

Accepting these conclusions from the recent manifestations of public opinion, we cordially and earnestly invite your organization to choose and send with proper credentials, of your representative business men to the proposed convention. Please appoint only those who will attend and report the names of your delegates as soon as practicable to H. H. Hanna, chairman of the executive committee, Indianapolis, Ind.

THE GREAT LAKES.

Sixty-Six Lives Lost During the Past Season.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—In navigating the great lakes during the season now closing, sixty-six lives were lost. Compared with previous years this list is much below the average. Crews have been remarkably fortunate in their escapes in some wrecks, and then the season has been freer than for many years from storms, but owing in a large degree to good luck, vessels have escaped. Even rotten old hulks has succeeded in braving the storms and coming into port time after time in safety. Another cause for the lessening of disasters is the improved construction of lake boats, all vessels now coming out being built to ride over the severest storms known in this latitude.

The season has been remarkably free from disasters where a large loss of life was involved. The most serious disaster was the wrecking of the schooner Waukesha off Muskegon, November 7, by which six lives were sacrificed by the disobedience of the crew, who let go the anchors when their boat was riding out a gale on a lee shore.

Next in point of numbers was the loss of the schooner Mary D. Ayer, May 17. The schooner Sumatra foundered off Milwaukee, September 4, carrying down four seamen. A boiler explosion on the Rhoda Stewart off Alpena cited three lives, and three were burned with the City of Kalamazoo, November 30. July 9 the schooner Little Wissahickon went down, taking the captain and two of his crew with her. The loss of both the Ayer and Little Wissahickon was due to the faithfulness of the captains, who endeavored to save their craft, but instead lost their own lives.

Twenty-six sailors fell overboard, either on the open lake or in harbors, and were drowned. Six fell through open hatches and were killed. One diver was suffocated when at work on the steamer Cayuga. Miscellaneous causes make up the balance of the list of sixty-six.

But one passenger of the vast number carried by lake steamers was lost. It will never be known whether this passenger fell overboard or committed suicide, but it is believed to be a case of suicide.

THE BOND SYNDICATE.

Dissolution of the Most Powerful Money Combine Ever Formed.

New York, Dec. 5.—The syndicate which was formed by J. Pierpont Morgan last August to furnish foreign exchange for market requirements and prevent a drain upon the gold reserve in the United States treasury expired according to the terms of its agreement on Dec. 1, which fact is known to few outside of the syndicate. The syndicate was called upon to provide only $1,250,-000 in exchange. When it had sold this much the exchange market broke and gold began to pour in from Europe. It has been said, and it was doubtless true, that the syndicate was the most powerful one ever organized.

BIG DEAL.

Most Extensive Purchase of Coal Lands Ever Made.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 7.—The most extensive purchase of coal lands ever made in the world has just been consummated in this state. It is known as the Preston county coal land deal.

The tract contains 40,000 acres of land, all in Preston county lying between Oakland, Md., and Grafton, W. Va. The price paid was $10 an acre.

A prominent geologist says it is unquestionably one of the richest coal fields in the world, the veins being thick and of splendid quality.

COLD CONTRACTS.

Georgia Legislature Defeats a Bad Bill.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4.—The state senate yesterday by a vote of 21 to 15 rejected a bill introduced by Senator Culver to declare null and void all obligations and contracts which may be made payable in any specific character of money, whether the same be coin or otherwise, so far as the general assembly is concerned; therefore, gold contracts may still be made in Georgia.

GUNBOATS LAUNCHED.

Vicksburg and Newport Wedded to the Wave.

Bath, Me., Dec. 5.—The new gunboats Vicksburg and Newport were launched from the yards of the Bath Iron Works this afternoon before an immense crowd. The Vicksburg went into the water at 12:35 o'clock and the Newport followed twenty minutes later. The launchings were successful in every respect.

All men should read Thos. Slater's offer on page 5.

Markets and Crops.

IRON COMBINES DISSOLVE

And Give Added Confidence to Business.

New York, Dec. 4.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

The classified failures for November show gratifying reduction compared with October, and are especially important as showing that the peculiar disturbance during the Presidential campaign, which swelled failures $36,-000,000 in August and September, did not prevent quick return to a monthly aggregate scarcely greater than that of May. Defaulted liabilities in eleven months have been $198,738,450 against $148,544,202 last year, the increase being only $14,000,000 outside of those two months, and this remaining increase of only 10 per cent was also in part due to the alarm during the campaign. The decline of failures to about 40 per cent of the September aggregate gives stronger ground for the confidence so generally expressed.

Ground for confidence is also found in the abandonment of two of the largest combinations by which the iron industry has been retarded, and the possibility that two others will be abandoned. Such a state of things within a month after the election suggest that these organizations, formed when depressed business failed to support all the works in existence, are not expected to survive a general revival of ample demands for products. The immediate effect of the breaking prices is to check large buying. The bar combination is still undersold by steel bars at 1.1 cents, and nothing is doing in rails. Several thousand cars have been ordered, and numerous new buildings and bridges. Minor metals are a shade stronger.

Wool manufacture is waiting, and while more concerns are at work, the new demand improves but little, with more favorable weather. Speculation sales of wool continue large. London prices having risen 10 per cent, and the average of 704 quotations by Coates Bros. is 13.66 against 12.92 a month ago. In the cotton manuf